OSAMU TEZUKA

BIG X



VOL. 1



OSAMU TEZUKA'S

BIG X Vol 1



BIG X

Vol 1

OSAMU TEZUKA

Big X (I)

In 1945, Nazi Germany, in an effort to turn back the tide of battle against the Allied Forces, was planning to perfect three new weapons, the rocket bomb V-2, the death-ray and Big X, a medicine which would swell the cells of all living beings to several times their former size. Researches in the new weapons were engaged in by Engels and Prof. Asagumo of Japan. Asagumo, who feared that the results of the researches would be utilized as tools of war, sews in the stomach of his son Shigeru, the cards containing the method of manufacturing the new medicine on the pretense that he was operating on his son for appendicitis.
Twenty years elapse after the termination of the war and Shigeru grows up to become a professor, marries and begets a son Akira. The remnants of the former Nazi Germany were planning to resurrect their old glory by forming a secret society called "Nazi League," and conquer the world once again. The fact of the matter, however, was that Shigeru's wife was none other than a woman spy of the Nazi League. Shigeru falls victim to real appendicitis this time and the secret cards discovered in his stomach falls in the hand of the Nazi League. His son Akira is captured and becomes a guinea pig for experiments in Big X whose efficacy was still not known. Akira is blown up into a gigantic man and succeeds in recapturing the cards. Members of the Nazi League then tries to take back the cards but fail. However, in the process they kill Prof. Asagumo.
Prof. Hanamaru, an intimate friend of Prof. Asagumo, manages to complete the medicine Big X which he places in a syringe shaped like a sharp pencil. He gives this syringe, together with clothes made of special rubber which can be worn by anyone no matter how gigantic he grows, to Akira. There are five graduations on the syringe and by manipulating it, it would be possible for one to become as hard as steel or as big as he wished. Akira decides to use this syringe to do battle against evil men.
The Nazi League creates a robot called V-3 in order to test Big X which captures Akira. Akira is sent to a concentration camp in a country called Carthago, a country which the Nazi League had conquered. The commander-in-chief of the army of Carthago was a man named Hans who was the grandson of Prof. Engels who had worked together with Akira's grandfather in conducting researches on Big X. Akira meets Nina, a girl capable of telepathy and learns from her the whereabouts of Big X. He then escapes from the concentration camp. (To be continued in Vol. II).
Produced in the TV series "Big X" in 1964.

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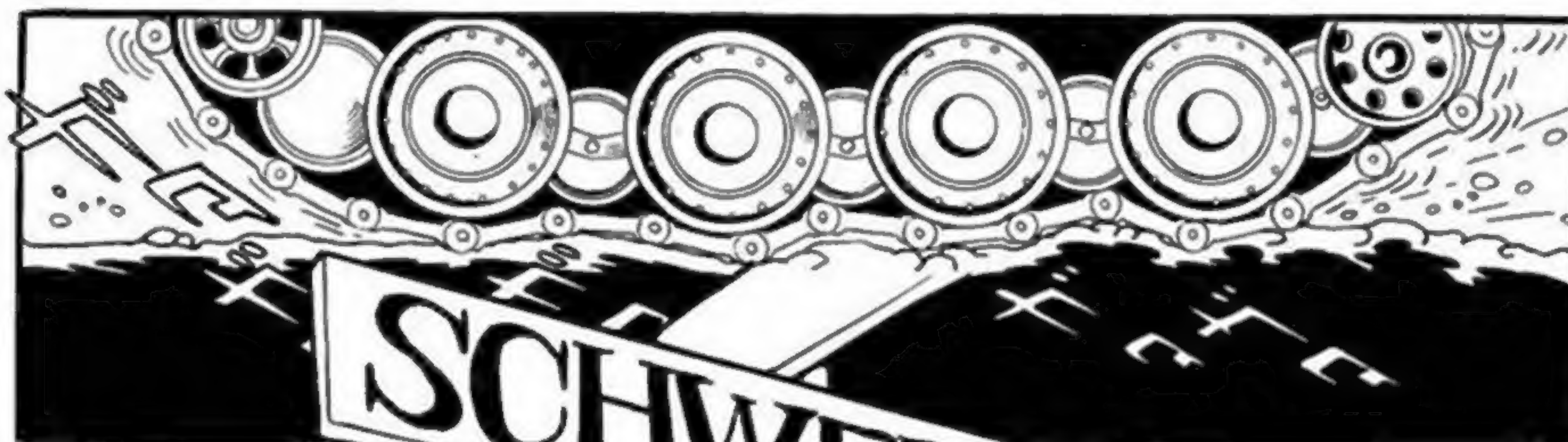
PROLOGUE
1945

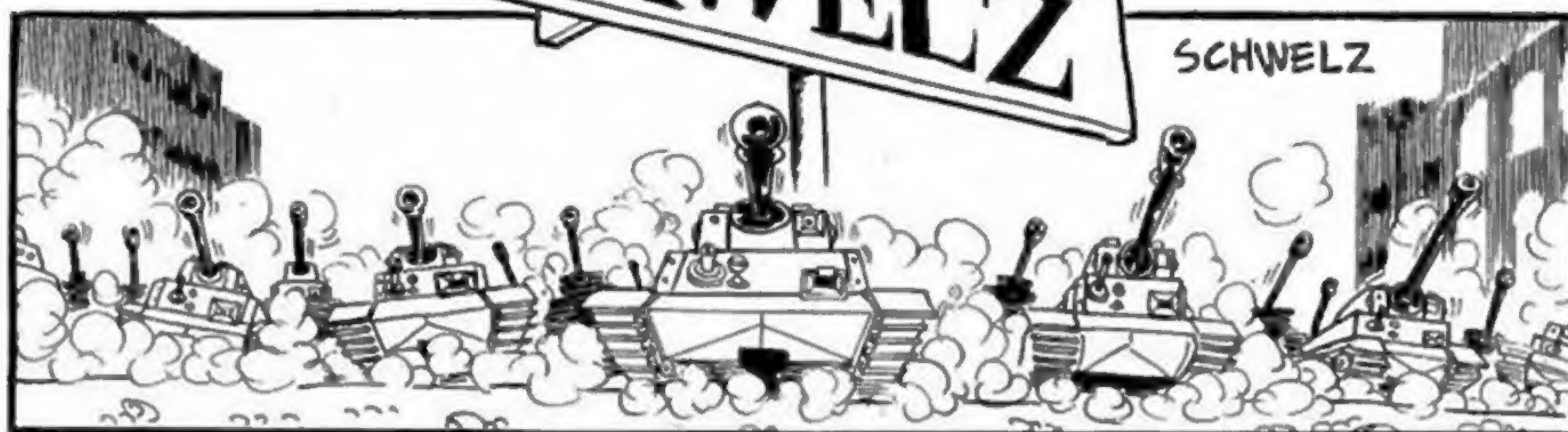
IT'S DECEMBER 1942,
WORLD WAR II

GERMANY'S MARCH
ACROSS EUROPE
CONTINUES...

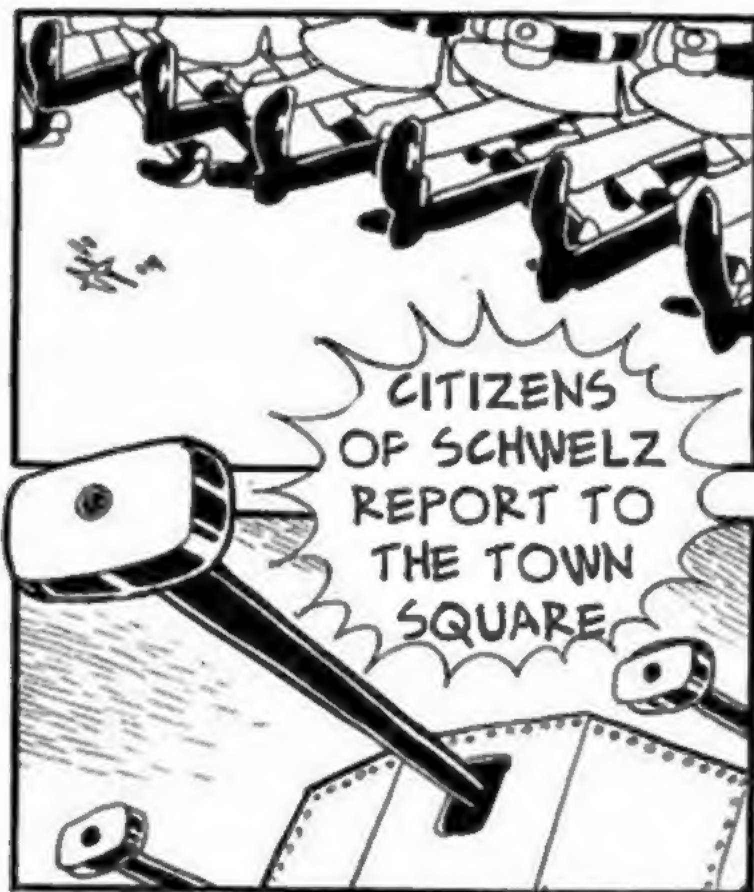
THEY BURNED DOWN TOWNS LIKE MESSENGERS FROM HELL

GERMAN TROOPS INVADED...



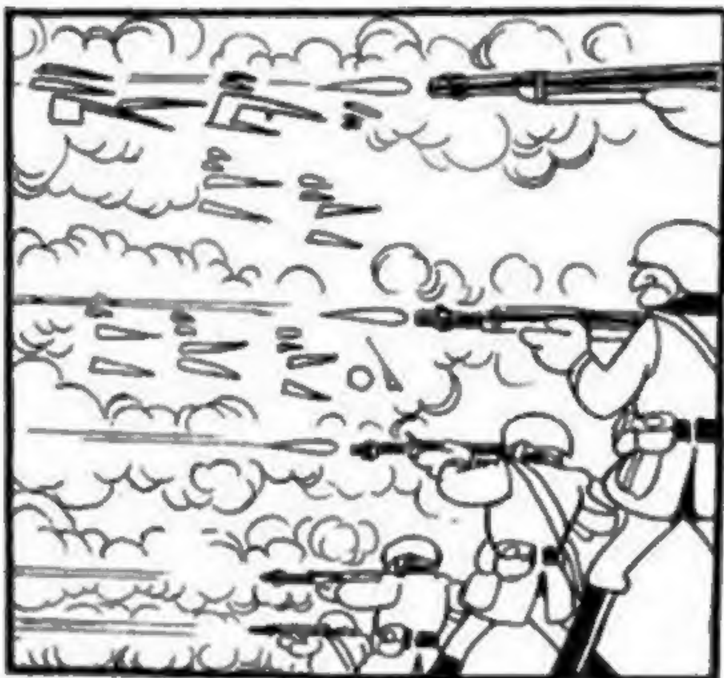




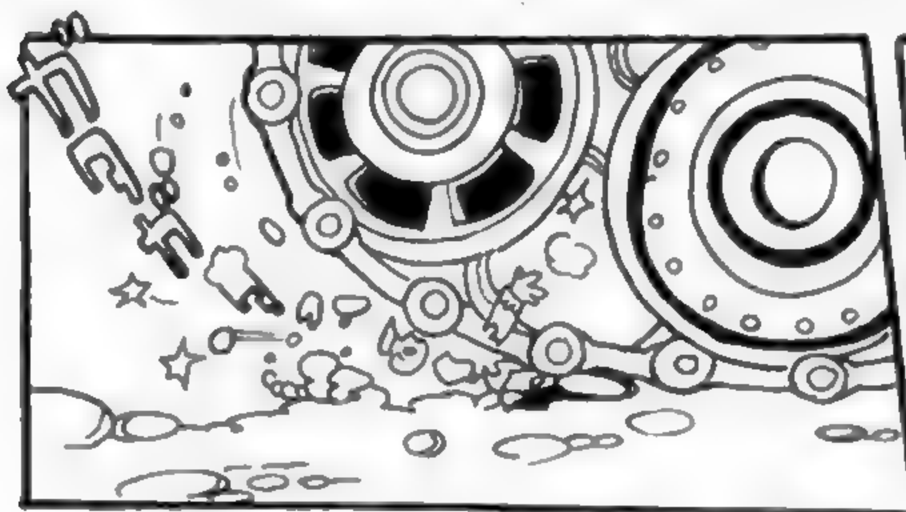

CITIZENS OF SCHWELZ REPORT TO THE TOWN SQUARE

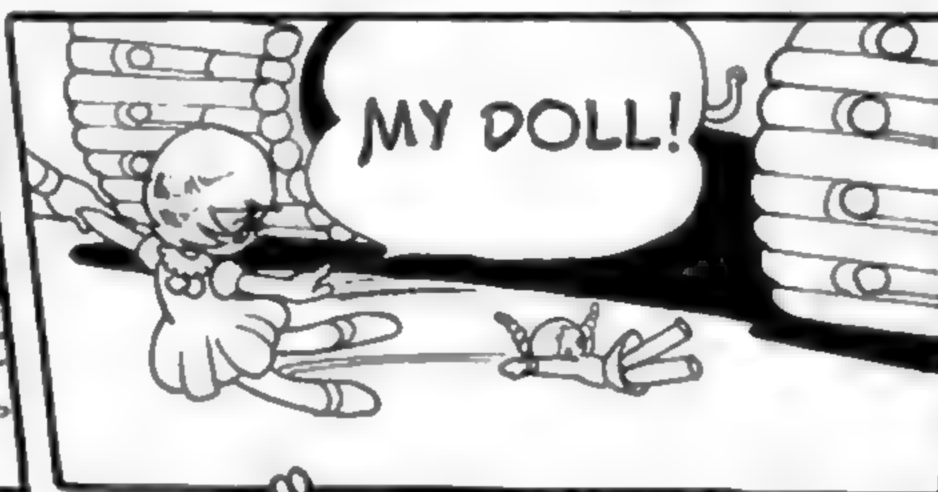

ALL THE TOWNSFOLK ARE ROUNDED UP


WE WON'T KILL CIVILIANS WHO DO NOT RESIST



THEY SAID THEY WOULDN'T HARM US!
HEY!




MY DOLL!

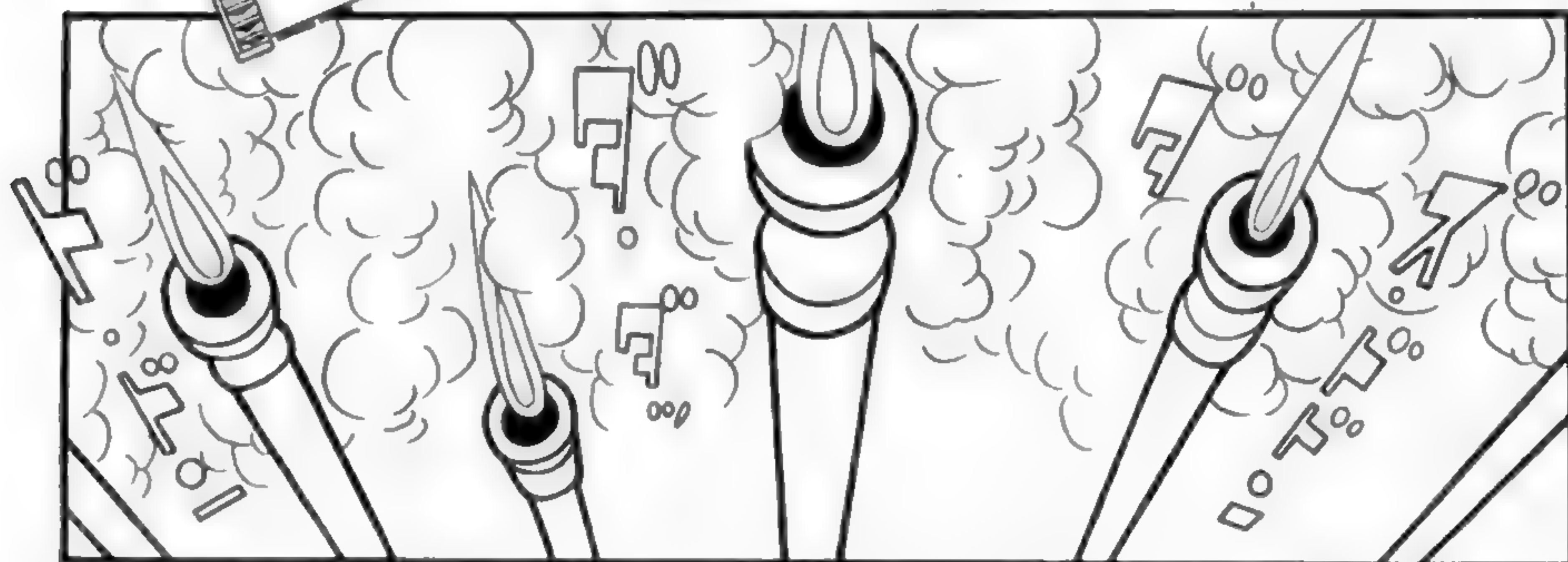

WE.. WE'RE DONE FOR!

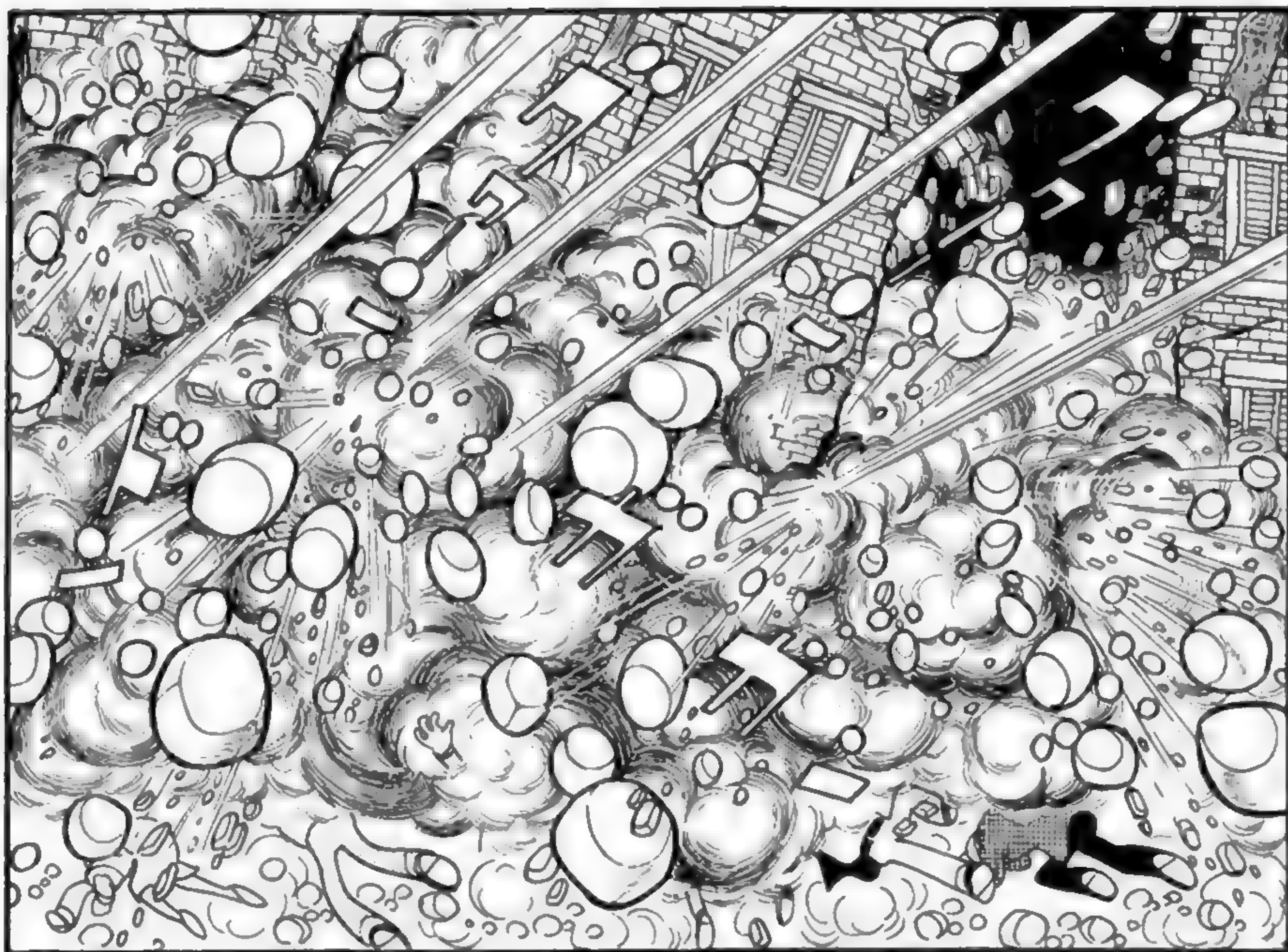

WHAA!

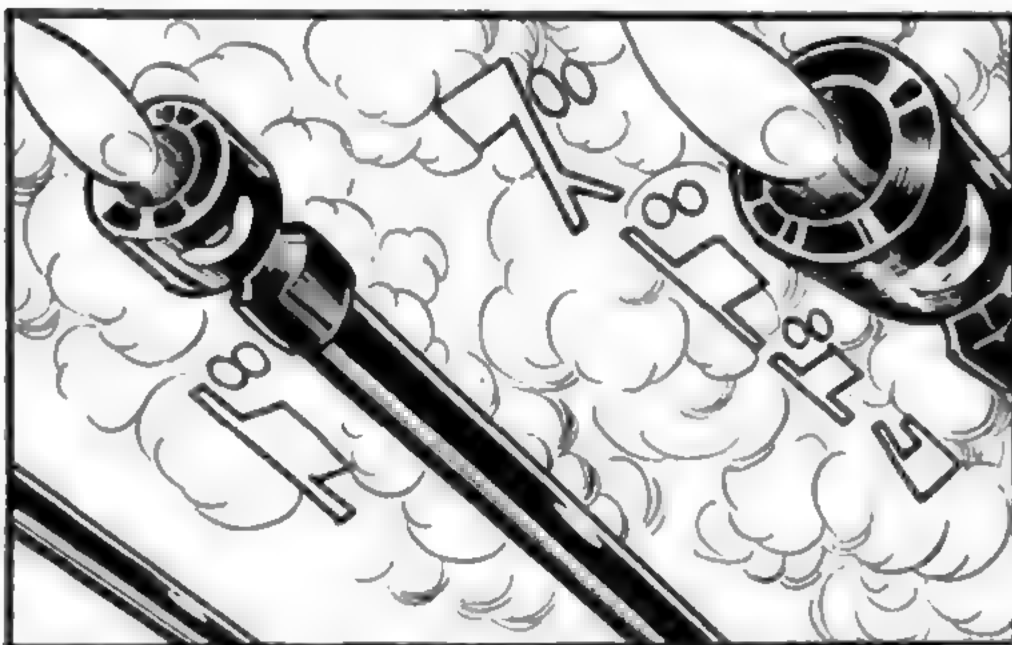
WHAT DO THEY WANT FROM US?

WE'RE TRAPPED!

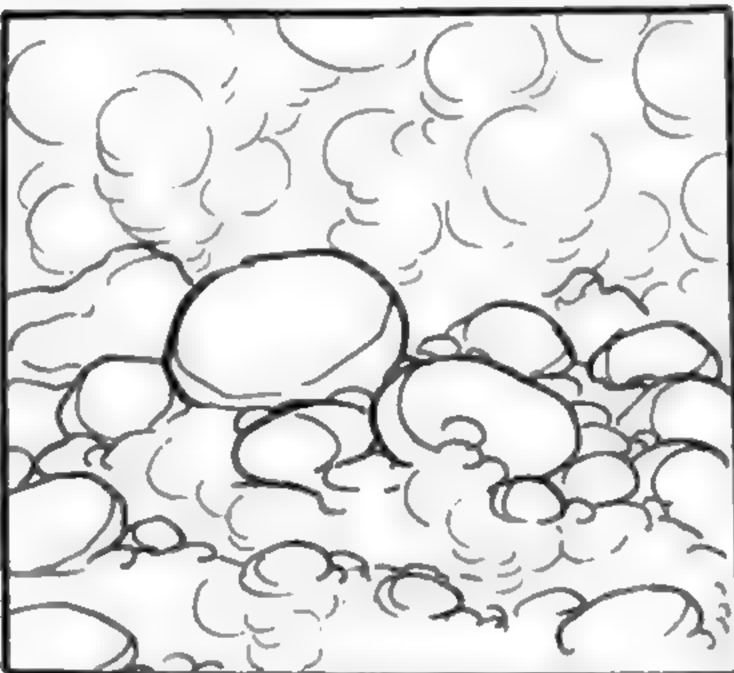
I WANT MY MOM!



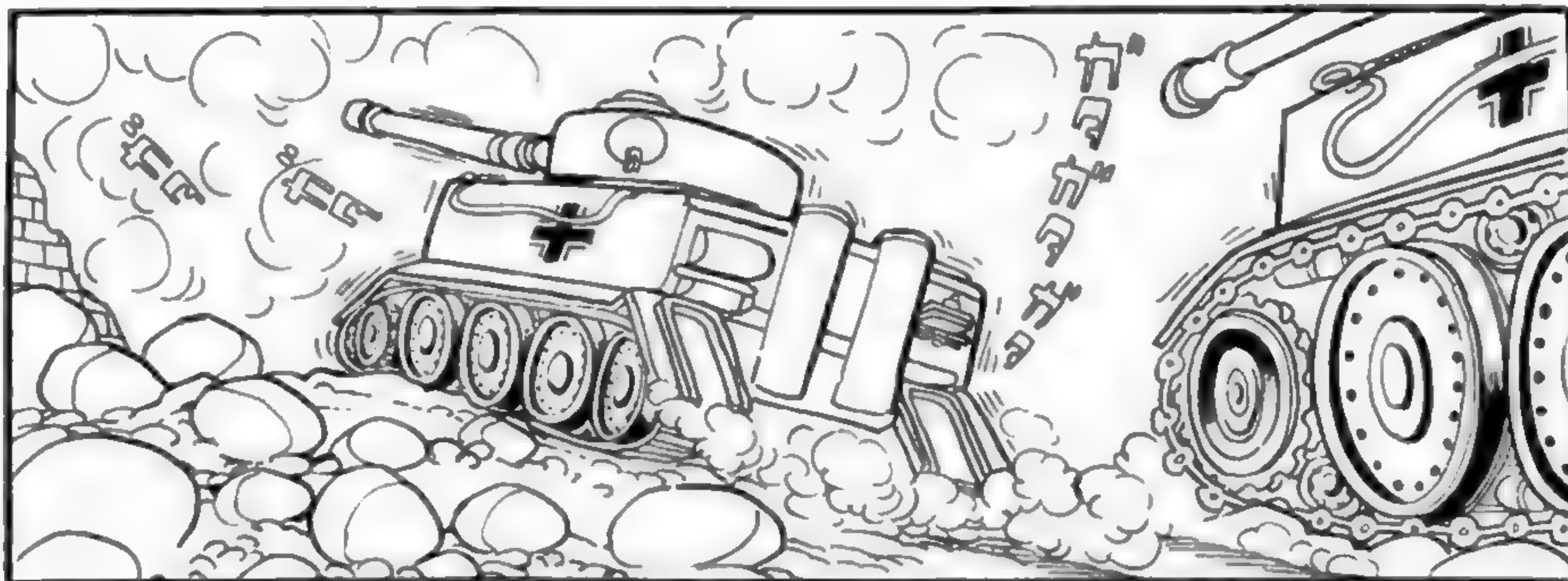




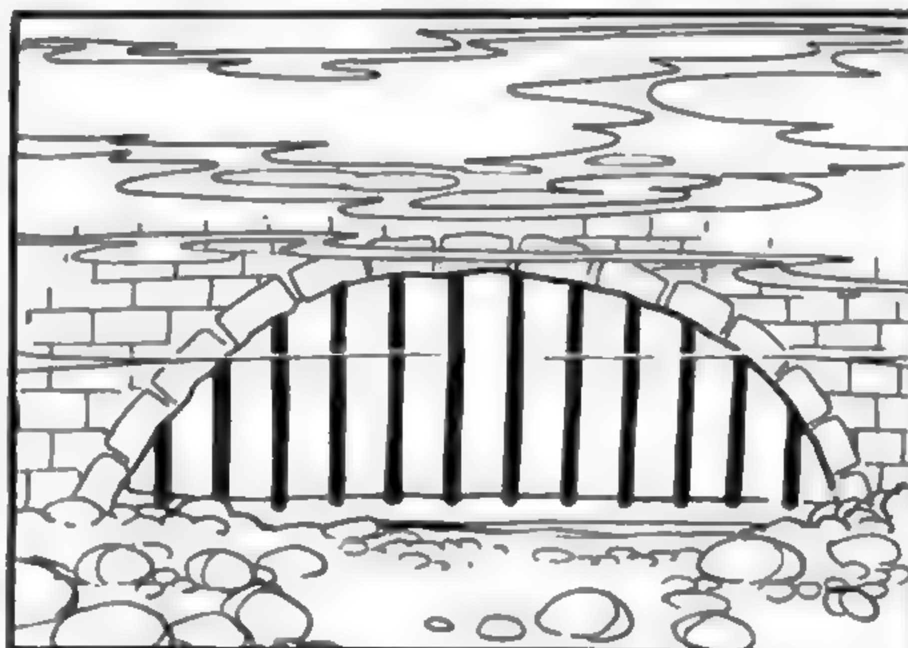


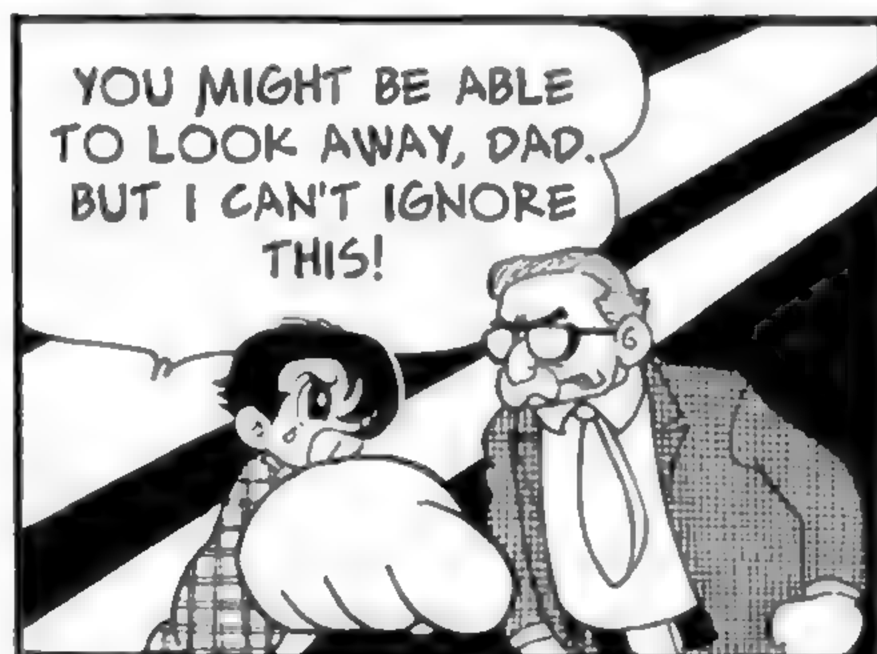





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DEVILS! THIS IS TERRIBLE!

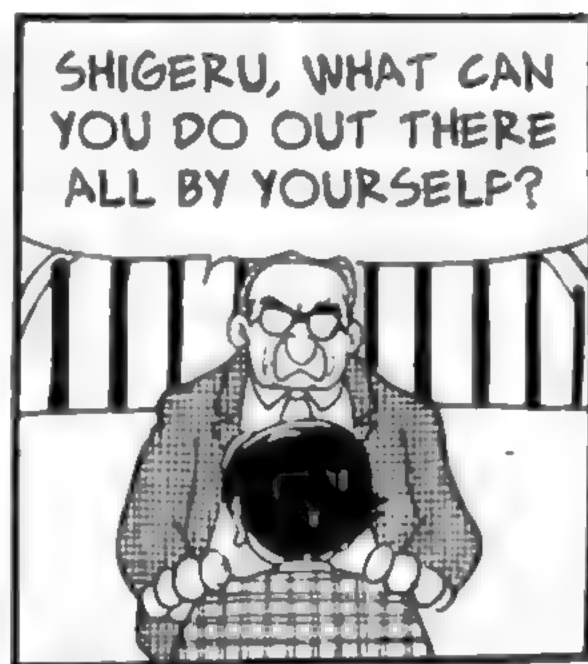



YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO LOOK AWAY, DAD. BUT I CAN'T IGNORE THIS!


WHERE ARE YOU GOING?


YOU'RE SAYING THEY'LL KILL ME? SO BE IT!

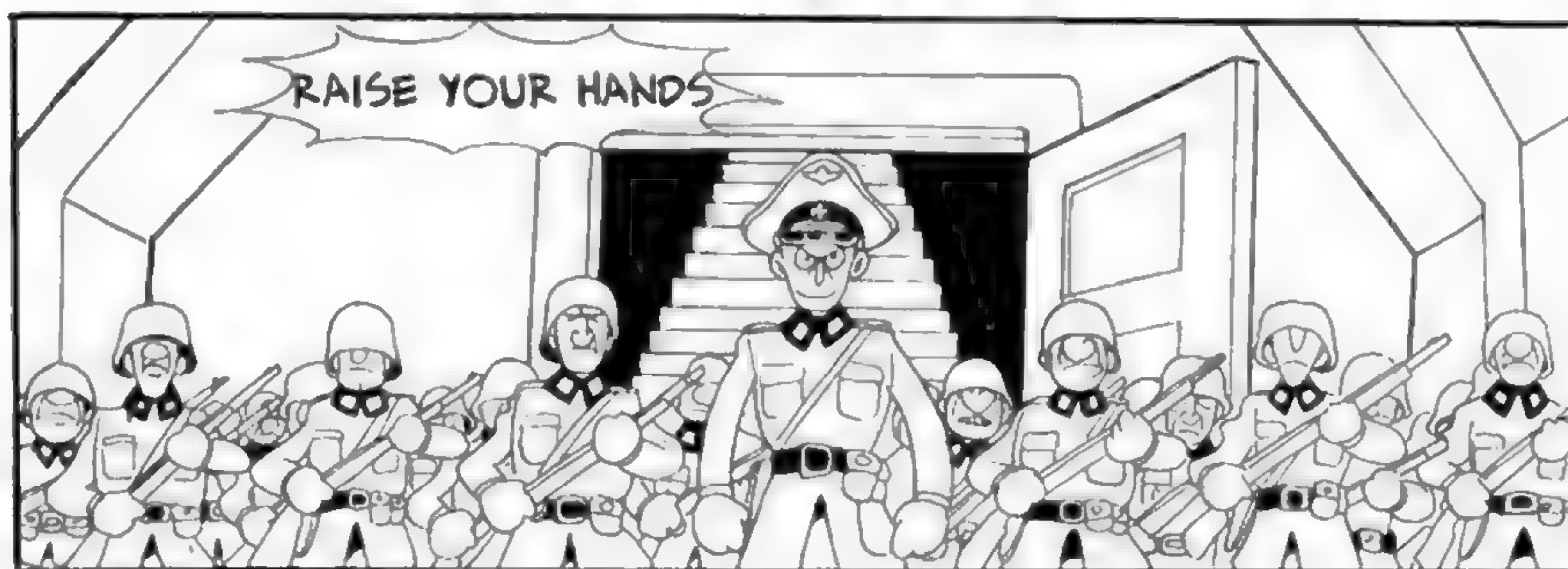

WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL HAPPEN? DO YOU THINK YOU CAN WIN AGAINST TANKS?

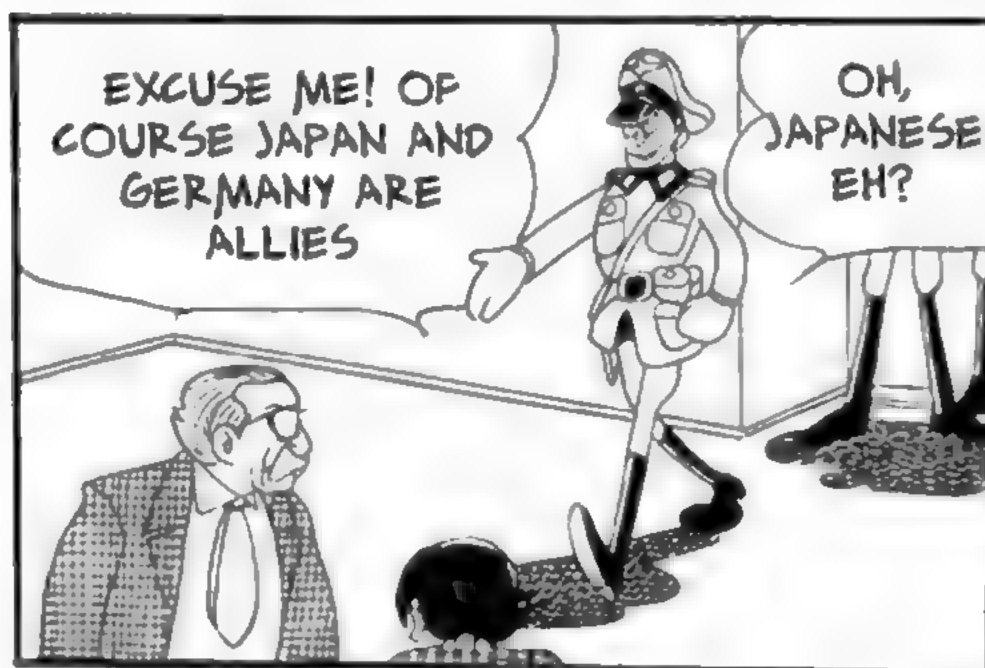

SHIGERU, WHAT CAN YOU DO OUT THERE ALL BY YOURSELF?


EH?
THEY'RE HERE...


STUPID STUPID STUPID
STUPID!




RAISE YOUR HANDS


OH, JAPANESE EH?
EXCUSE ME! OF COURSE JAPAN AND GERMANY ARE ALLIES

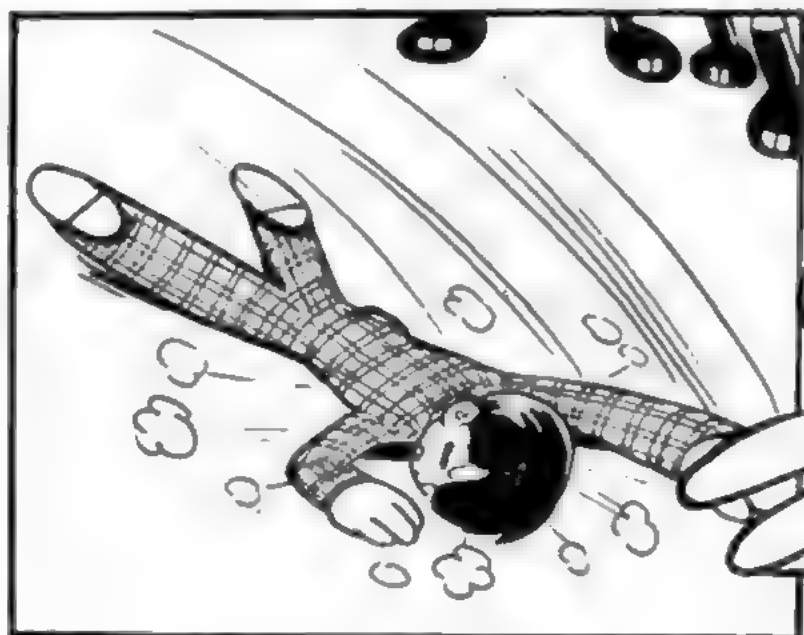

CHINESE?
JAPANESE!


SHIGERU STOP IT!


DAMMIT
DO YOU LIVE IN THIS TOWN? WHAT AN AWFUL PLACE




THIS... THIS DEVIL IS THE GOD OF DEATH!

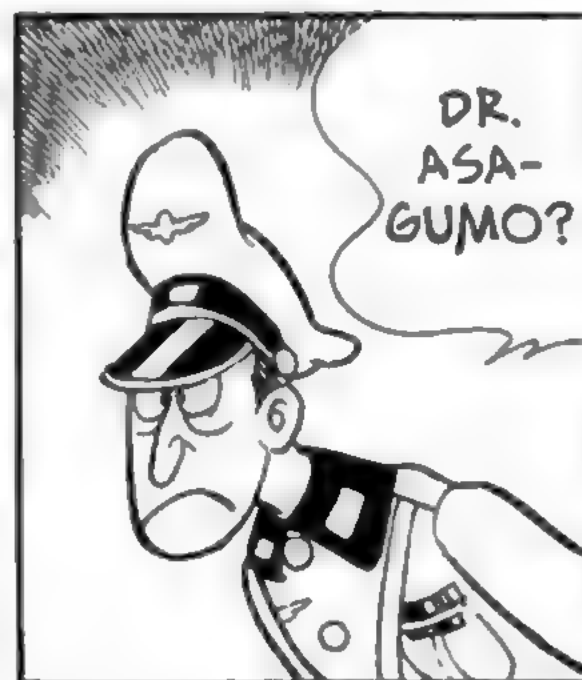



WHO ARE YOU?
WAIT...


IF YOU WEREN'T JAPANESE, I'D MAKE YOUR SON PAY FOR THAT!

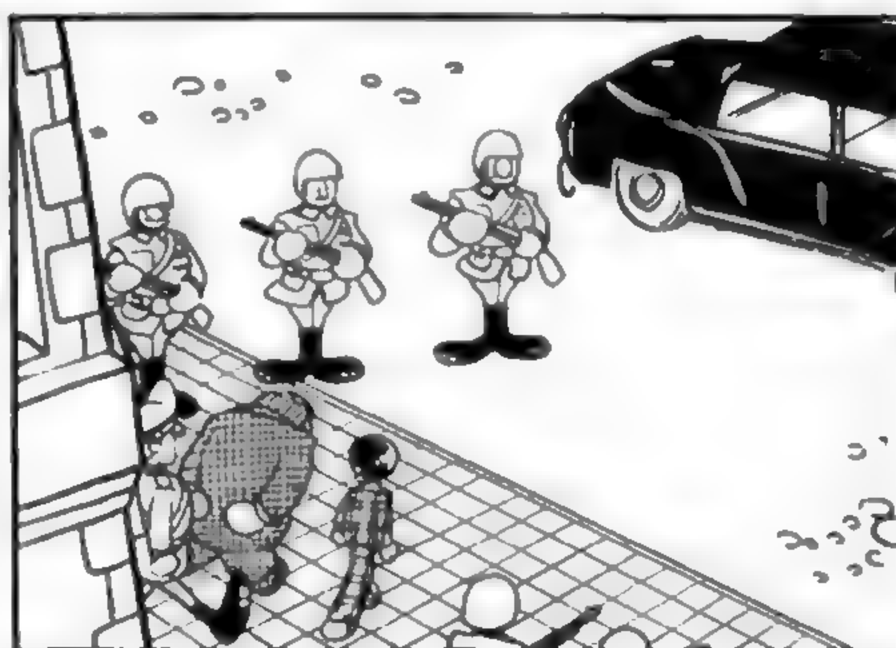

I'M BARRELMAN! IT'S AN HONOR TO MEET YOU IN SUCH AN UNEXPECTED PLACE!


THAT'S RIGHT. I'M DR. ASAGUMO


DR. ASA-GUMO?


SORRY, I DON'T WANT TO SEE THE FÜHRER

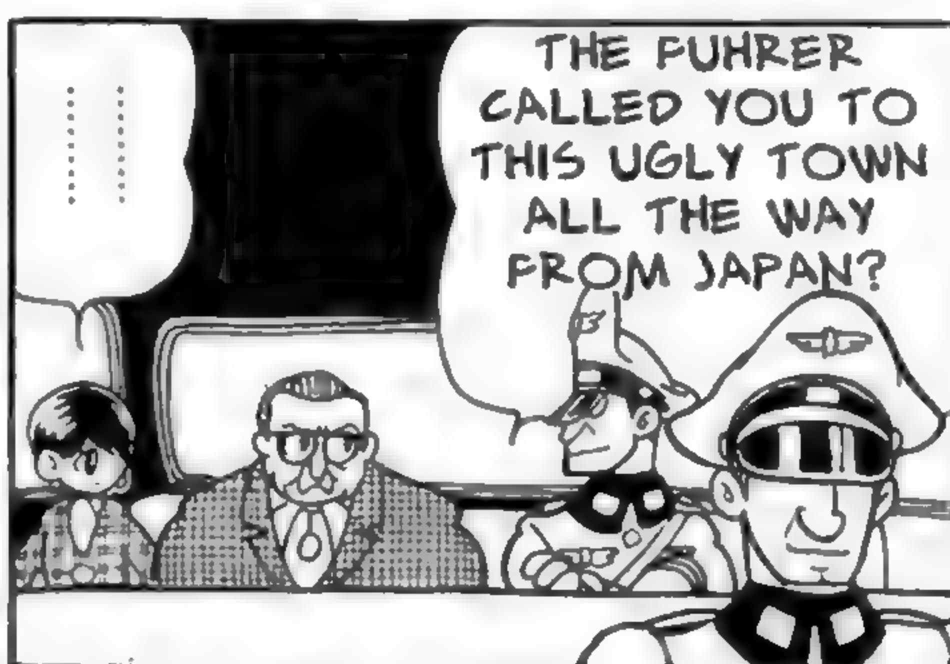

LET'S GO TO MY CAR
IT'S URGENT WE GET IN CONTACT WITH BERLIN ASAP!

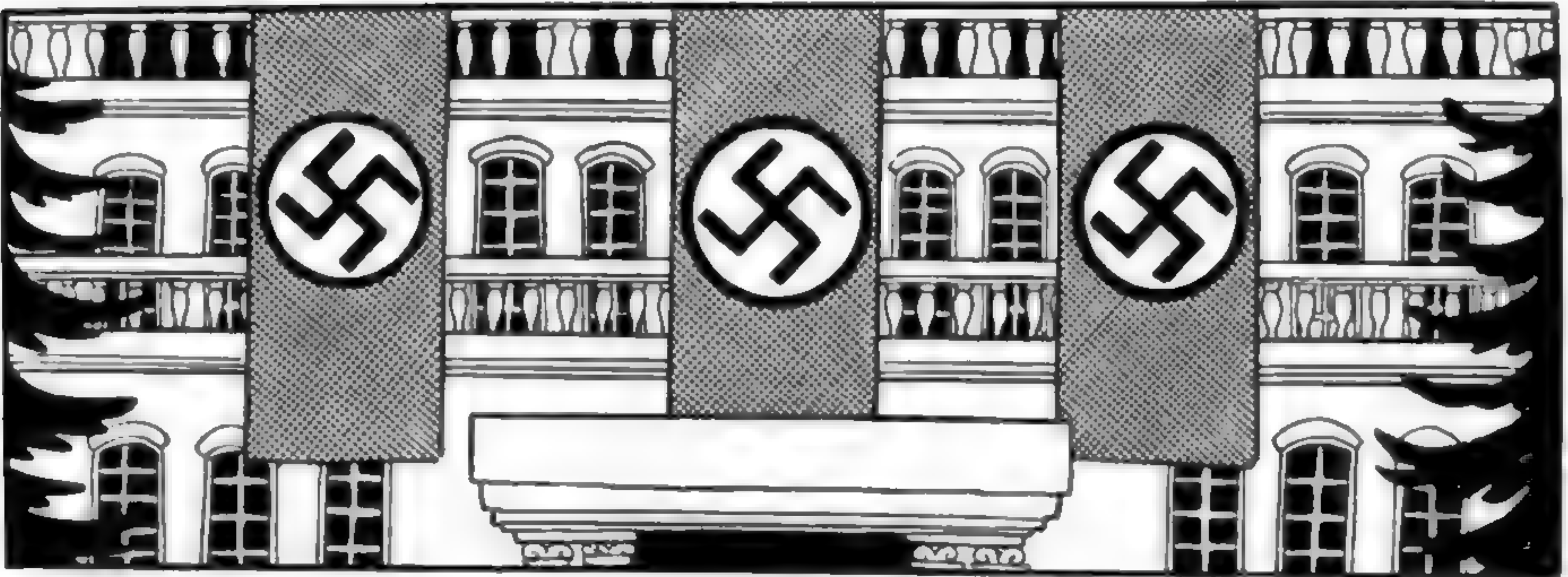


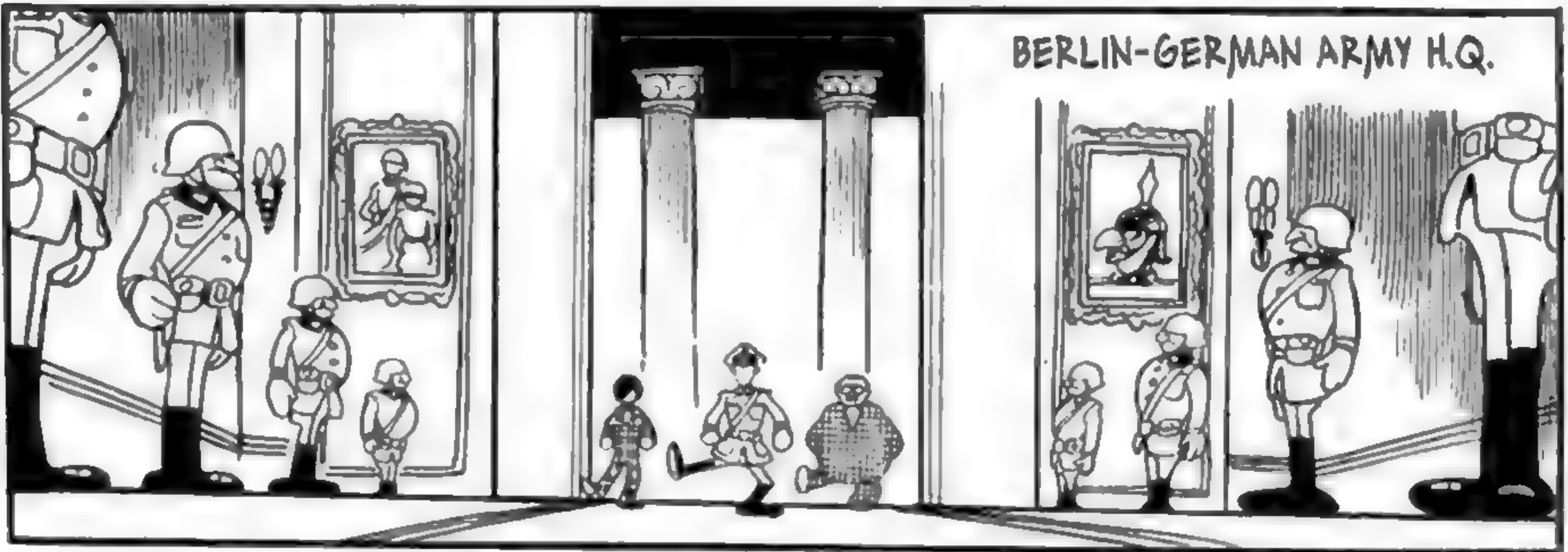

TO H.Q. IN BERLIN!
YESSIR!

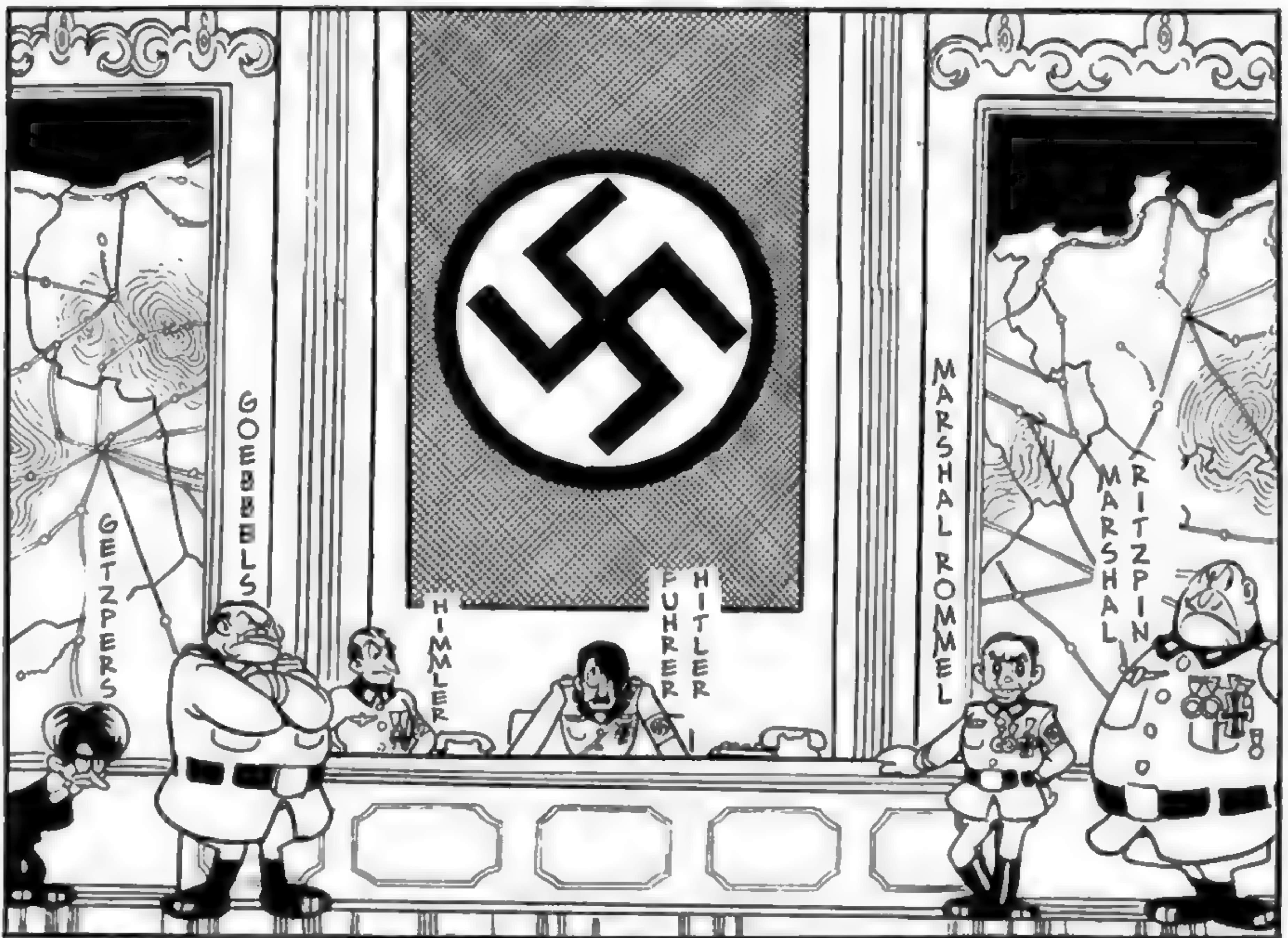

I INSIST DOCTOR.

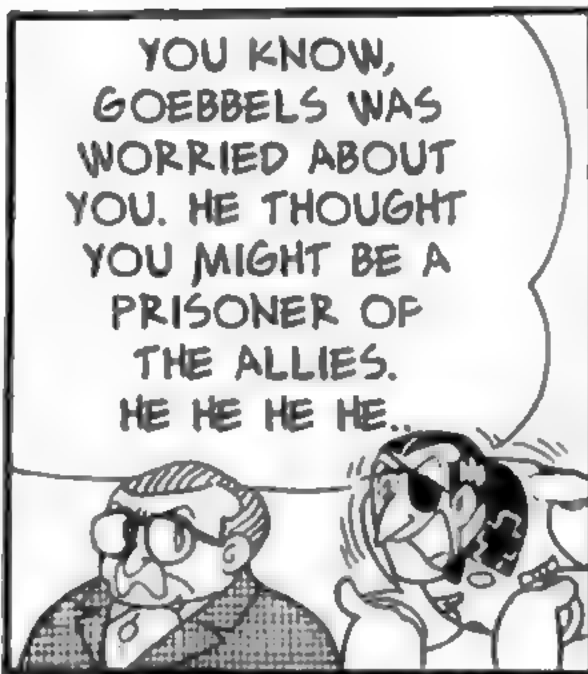

I WAS GETTING WORRIED THE DR. WOULD NOT MAKE IT TO BERLIN.

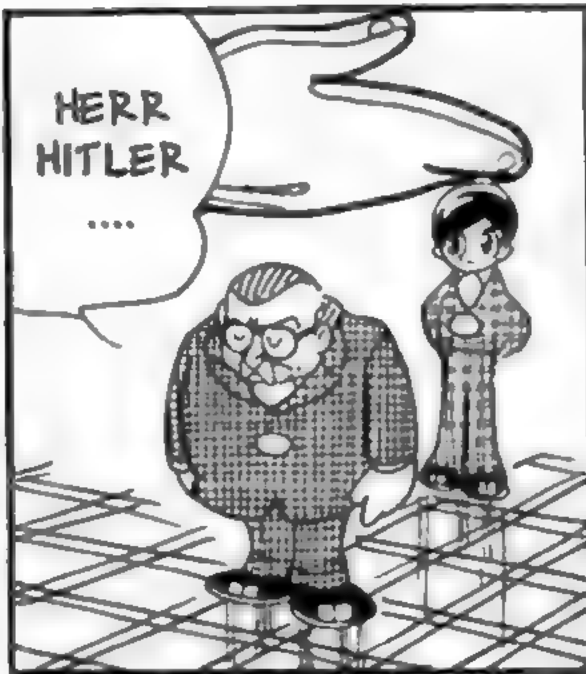

......
THE FUHRER CALLED YOU TO THIS UGLY TOWN ALL THE WAY FROM JAPAN?




BERLIN-GERMAN ARMY H.Q.

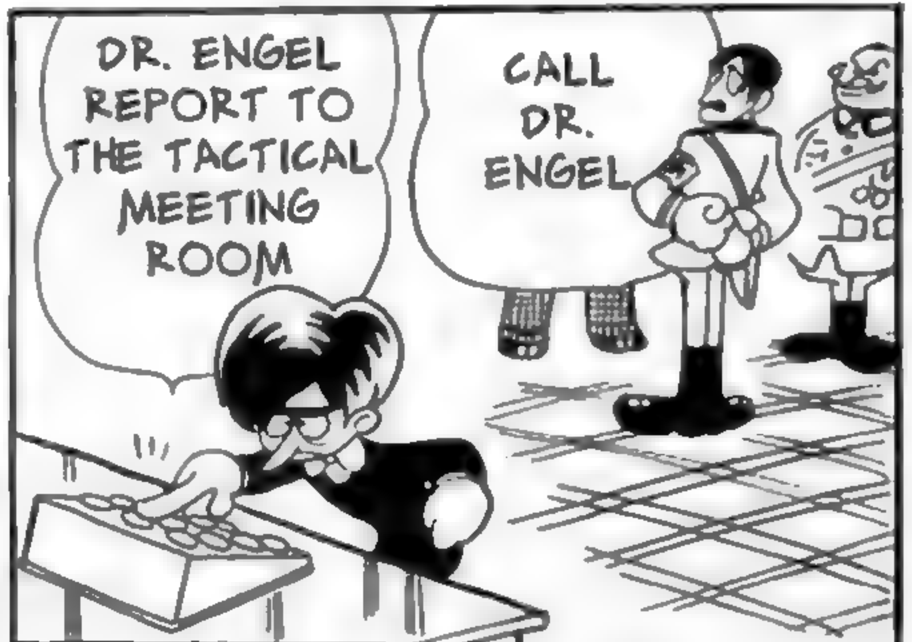

GOEBBELS
GETZPERS
HIMMLER
FUHRER HITLER
MARSHAL ROMMEL
MARSHAL RITZPIN



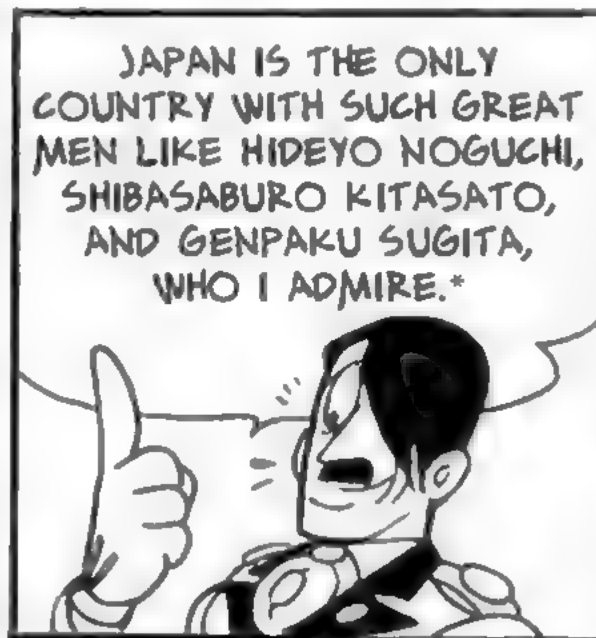




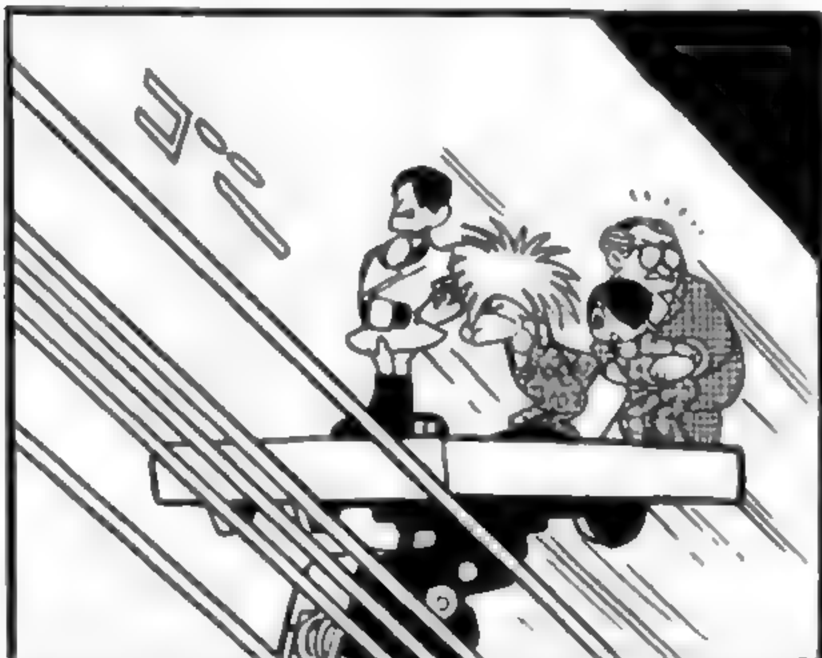


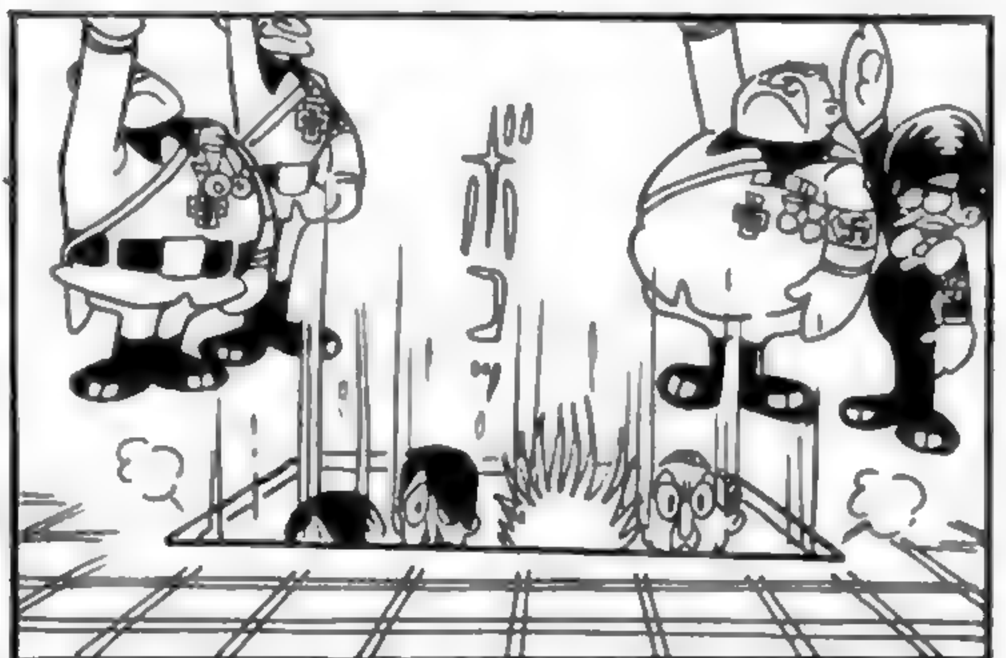




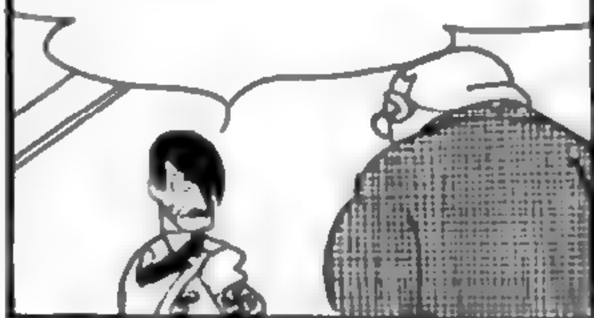


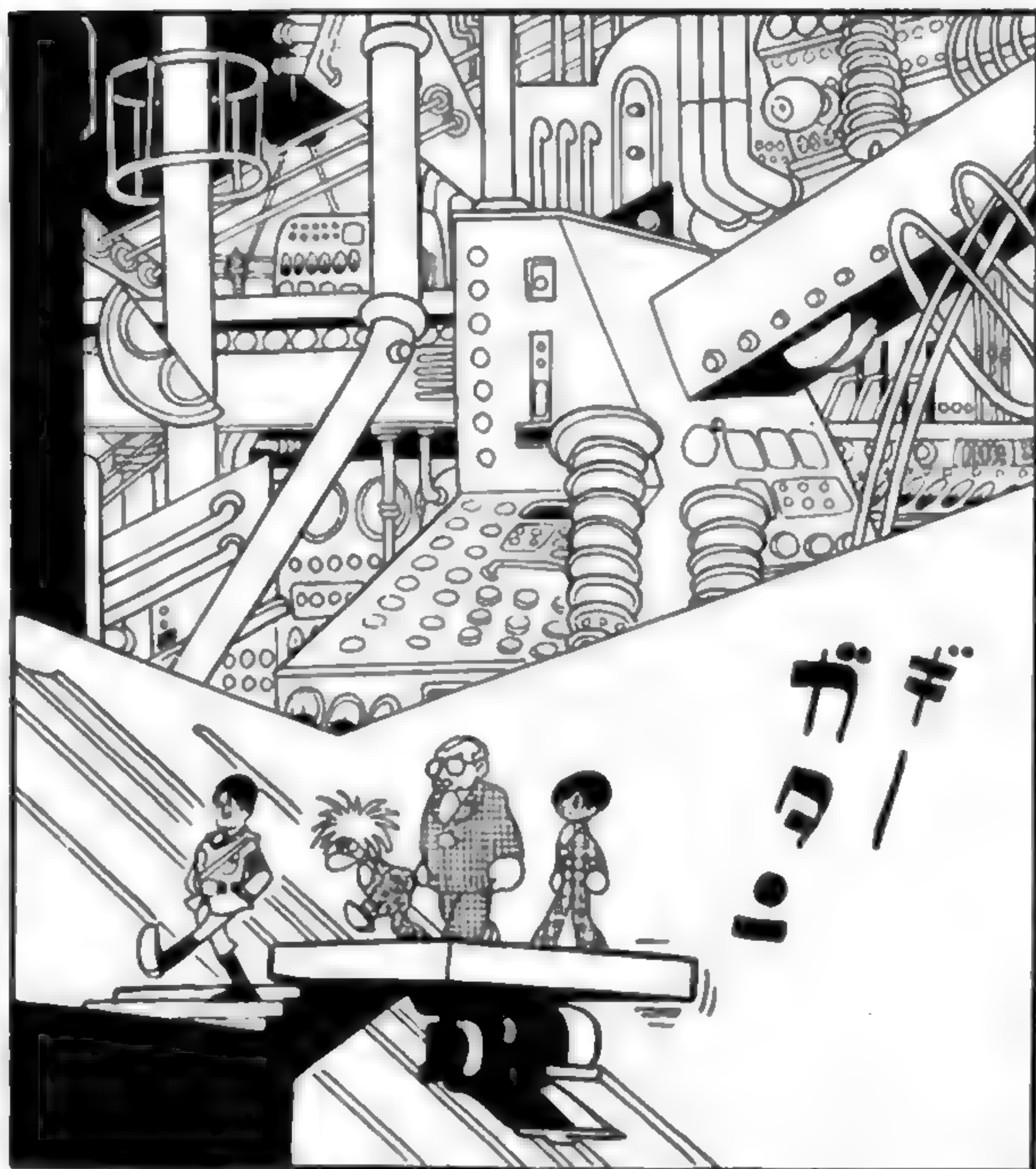


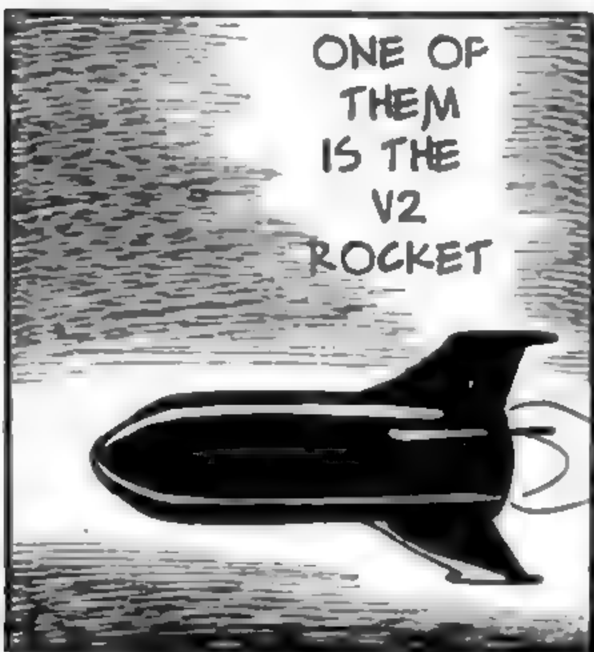


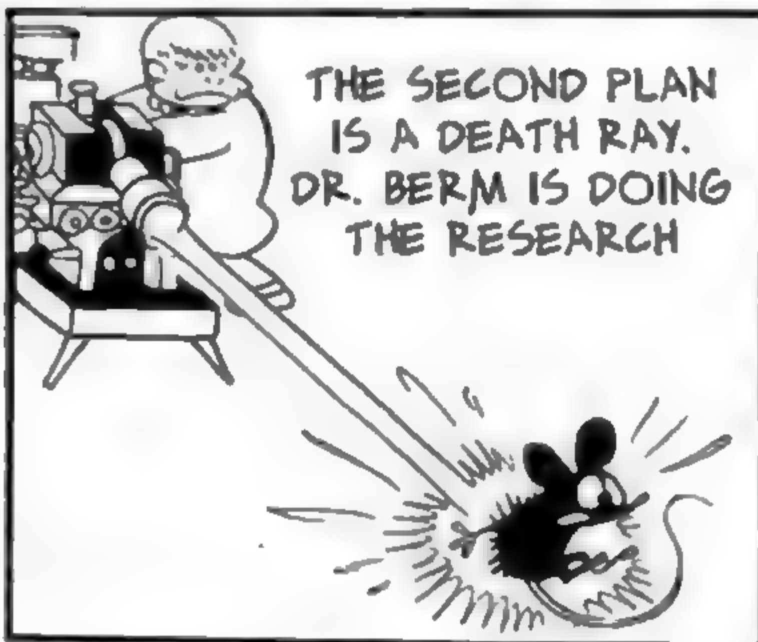


*each are famous physicians known for studies of bubonic plague and syphilis, etc.


DR. ASAGUMO, GERMANY HAS PLANS TO CREATE NEW WEAPONS FOR THIS WAR.

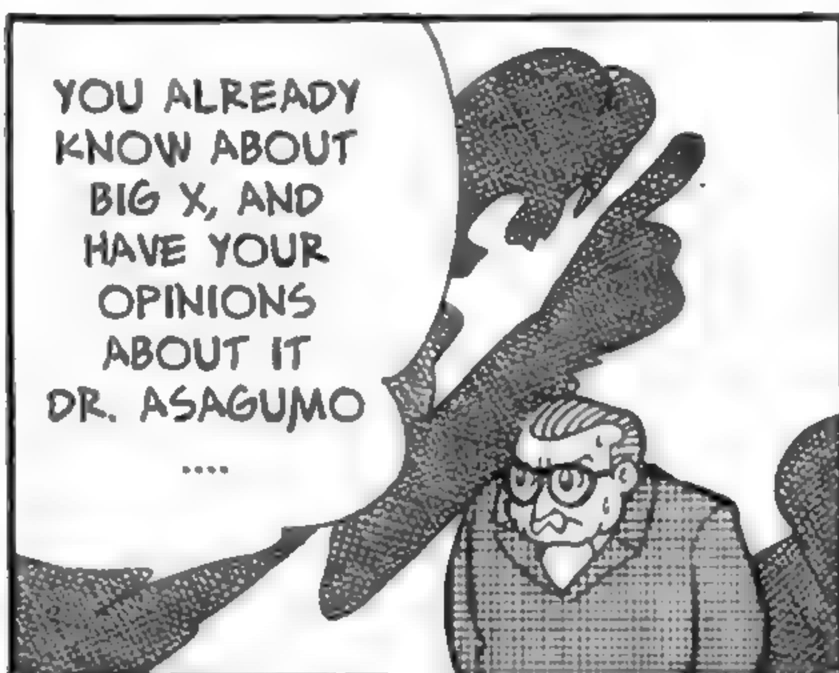

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ONE OF THEM IS THE V2 ROCKET


THE SECOND PLAN IS A DEATH RAY. DR. BERM IS DOING THE RESEARCH


IT'S LAUNCHING FROM GERMANY TO LONDON! WERNHER VON BRAUN IS IN CHARGE.


THE THIRD IS DR. ENGEL'S PLAN.


YOU ALREADY KNOW ABOUT BIG X, AND HAVE YOUR OPINIONS ABOUT IT DR. ASAGUMO ....


PLAN...
BIG X


3 MILLION GERMAN SOLDIERS WILL ALL BE IMMORTAL!
BUT WHEN THE BIG X PROJECT IS COMPLETE ...


I KNOW IT WELL ...


ABOUT BIG X, I...


WE MUST COMPLETE IT AT ANY COST! AND WE'LL DO IT WITH YOUR HELP


I DON'T THINK SO


OF COURSE!
GERMANY IS FIGHTING FOR A RIGHTEOUS CAUSE!

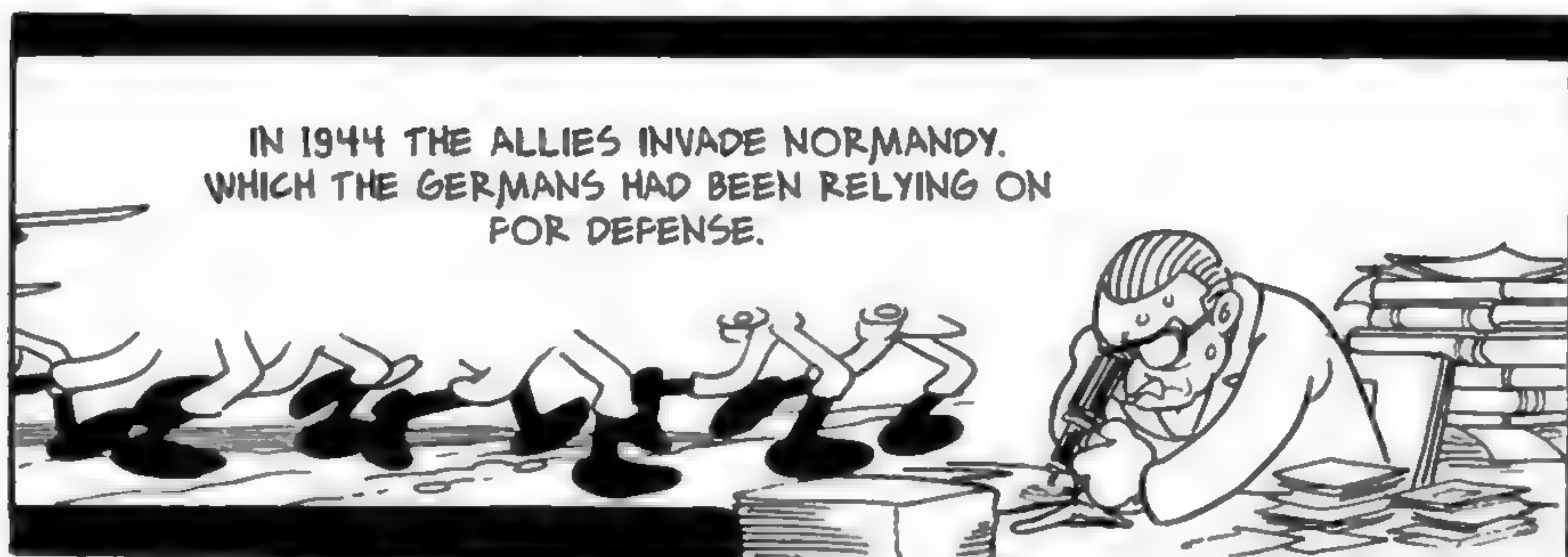

..I THINK ONLY RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE CAN USE SUCH POWER.


DR. ASAGUMO I WOULD LIKE YOU TO HELP WITH THE RESEARCH.
......

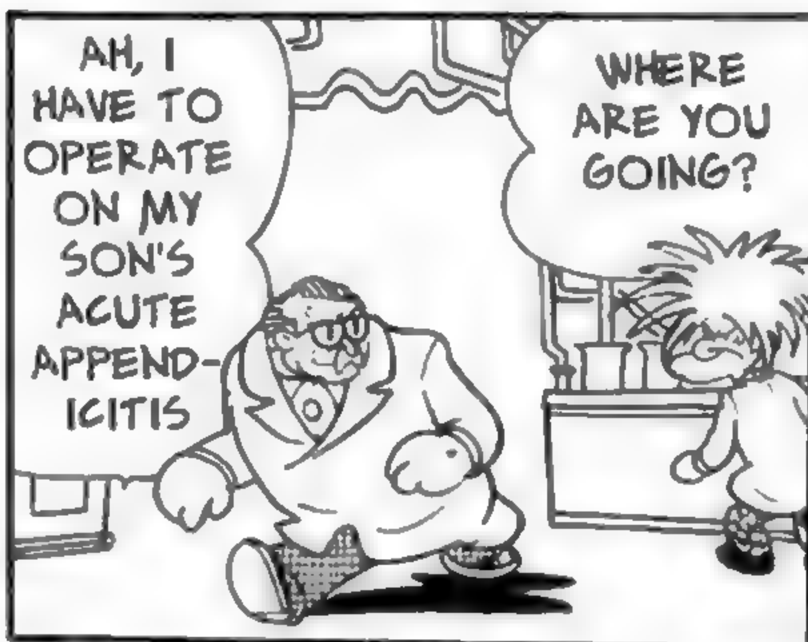

I DON'T WANT TO USE BIG X FOR WAR.
IT SHOULD BE USED TO HELP MANKIND.


SPARE ME YOUR LECTURES!
WE MUST DO IT TO BE THE STRONGEST


A YEAR LATER ... A DIMINISHED GERMAN ARMY MARCHED ON THE SOVIET UNION, BUT THE BATTLE OF LENINGRAD TRIGGERED A CRUSHING DEFEAT


IN 1944 THE ALLIES INVADE NORMANDY. WHICH THE GERMANS HAD BEEN RELYING ON FOR DEFENSE.

IN BERLIN ...
THE NAZI REGIME WAS COMING TO AN END. IT IS JUST A MATTER OF TIME...









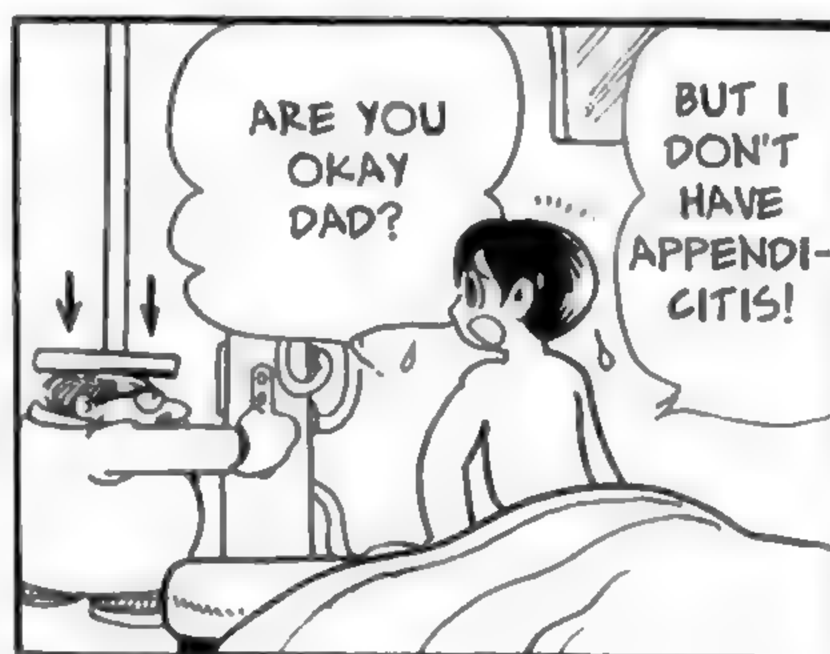


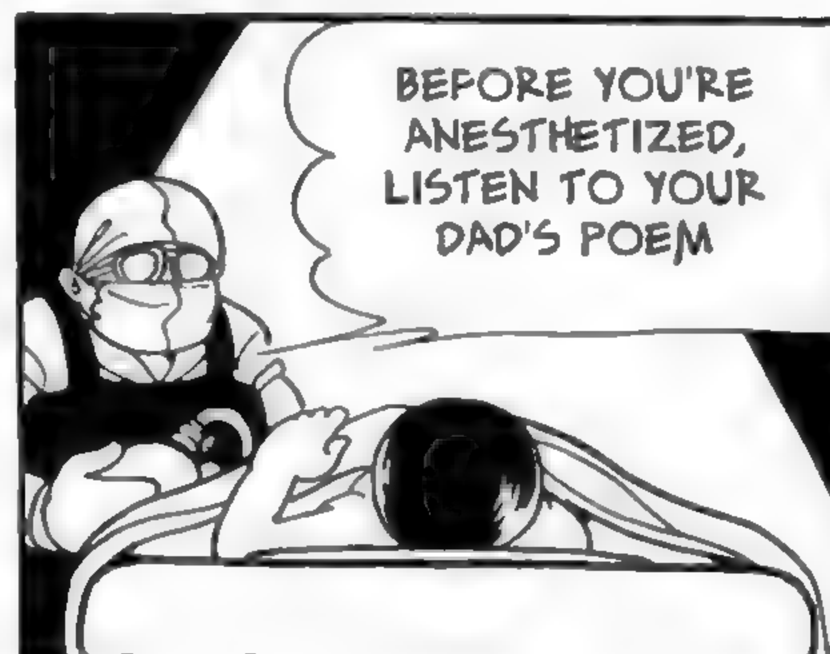

YOU NEED TO GO TO BED
SHIGERU ...
DAD!


FOR YOUR APPENDI-CITIS
I'M DOING SURGERY
HUH?

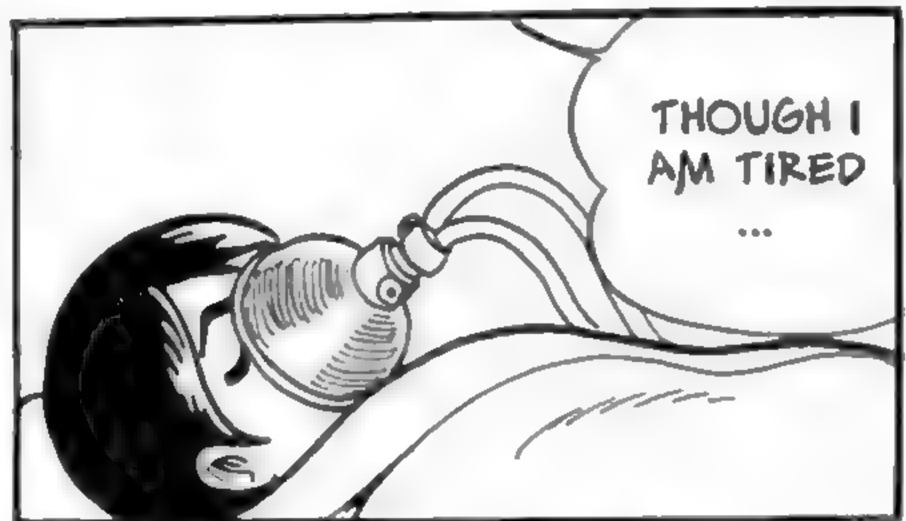



YOU DIDN'T LIKE YOUR FATHER ... BECAUSE HE WORKED UNDER HITLER'S DISCRETION ...


ARE YOU OKAY DAD?
BUT I DON'T HAVE APPENDI-CITIS!


BEFORE YOU'RE ANESTHETIZED, LISTEN TO YOUR DAD'S POEM

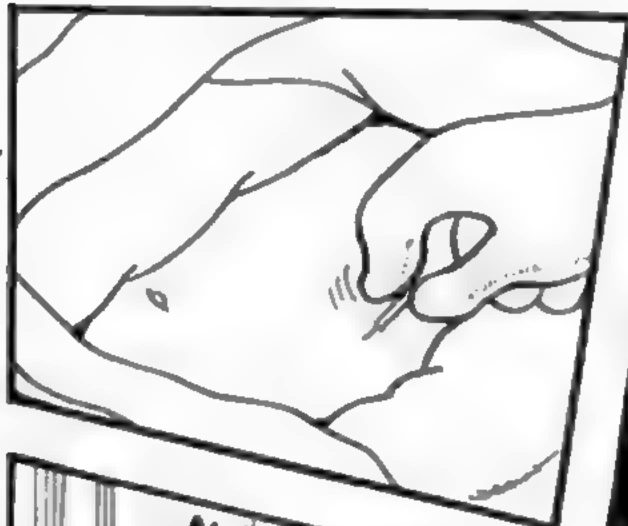

BUT YOU WILL UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL ...
YOUR FATHER ...
HE KNEW GERMANY WOULD LOSE ...
WHEN PEACE ARRIVES THAT IS WHEN BIG X ARISES ...


THOUGH I AM TIRED ...


I'M GOING TO CUT YOU OPEN ...

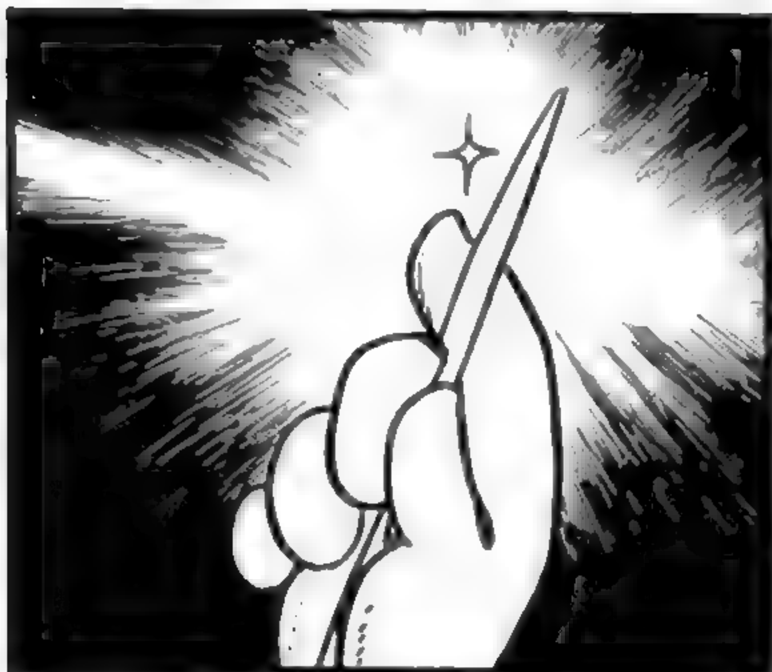

AND IMPLANT THIS CARD ...
INSIDE OF YOU WILL BE THE SECRET OF BIG X ...

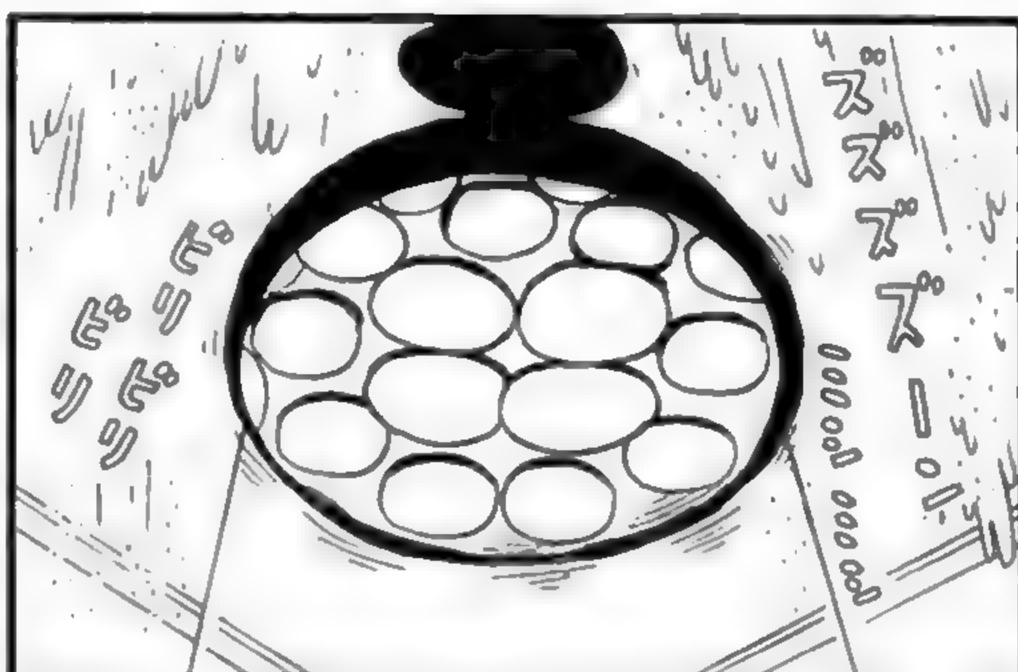

IF YOU CAN MAKE IT BACK TO JAPAN ...

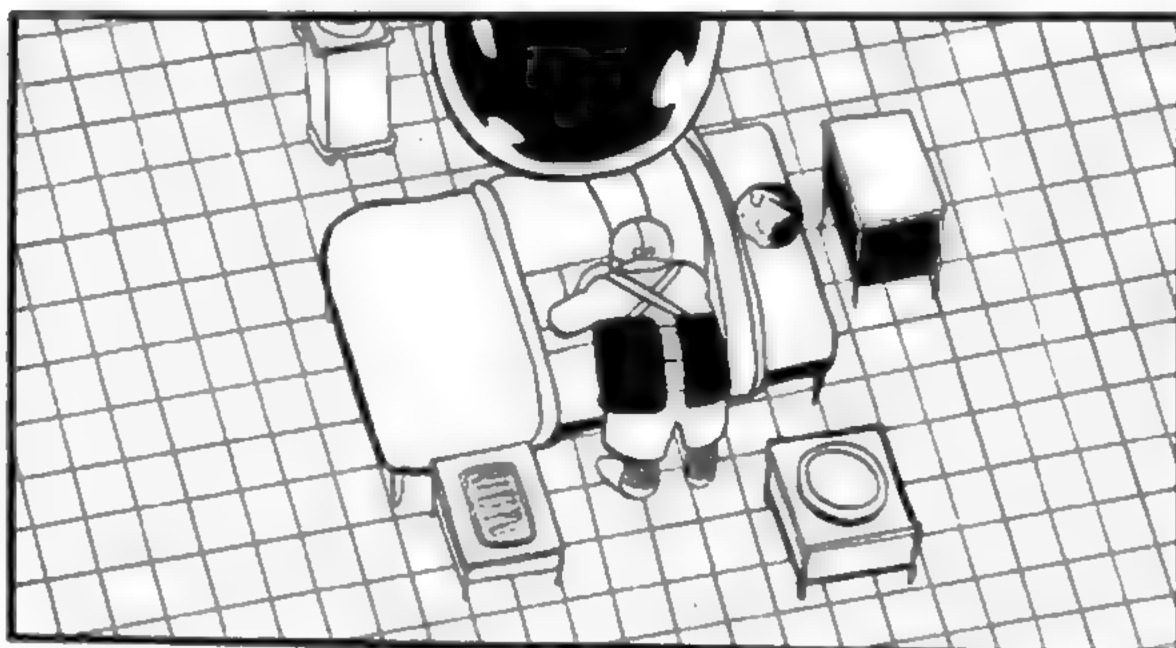



IT WILL HELP YOU IN THE FUTURE

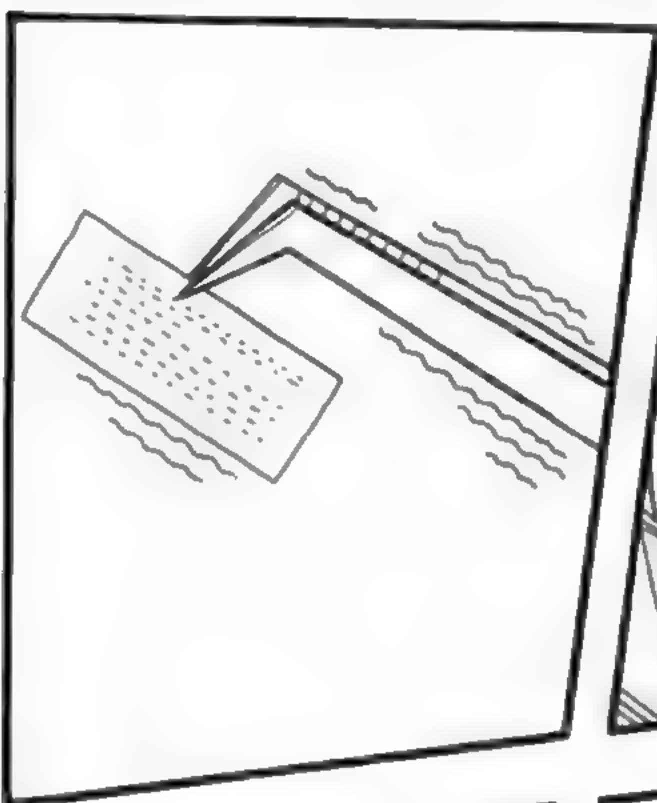

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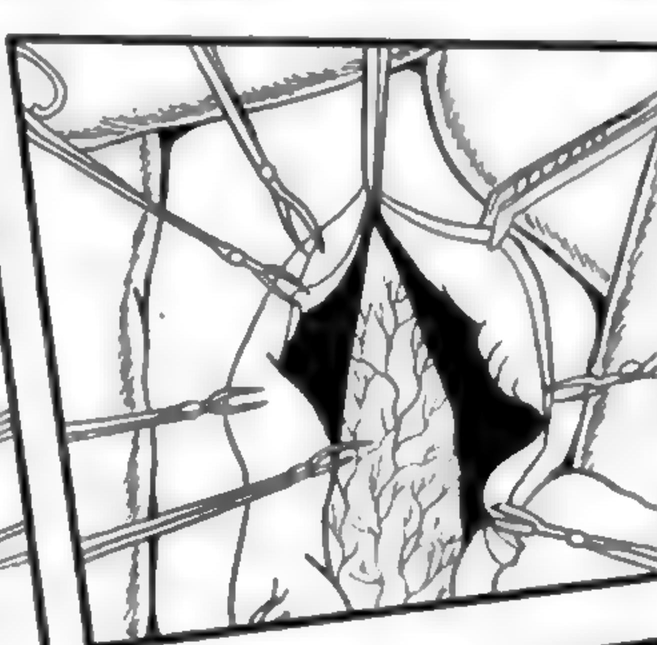

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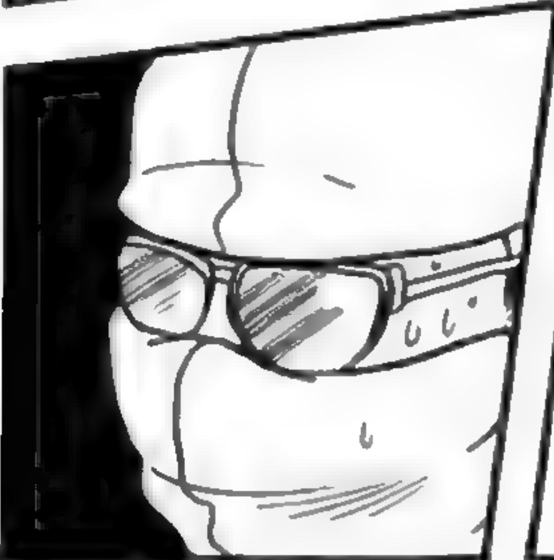


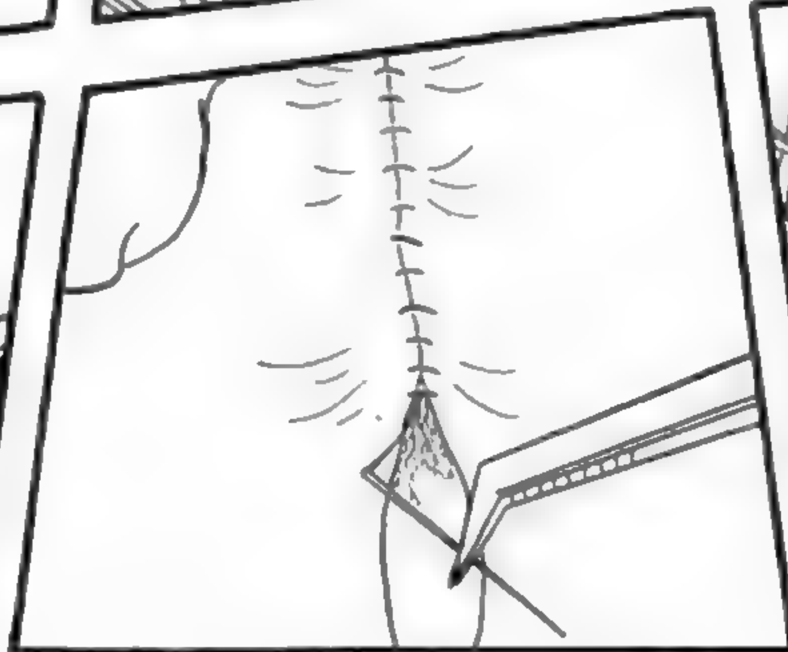


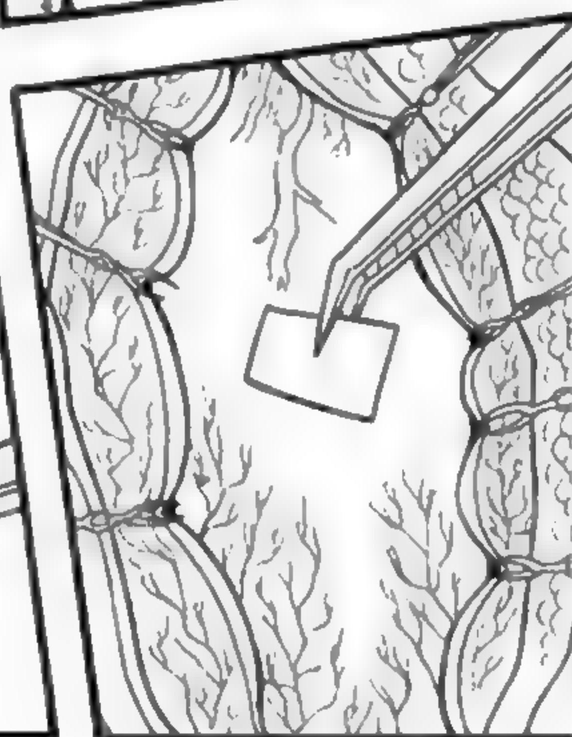






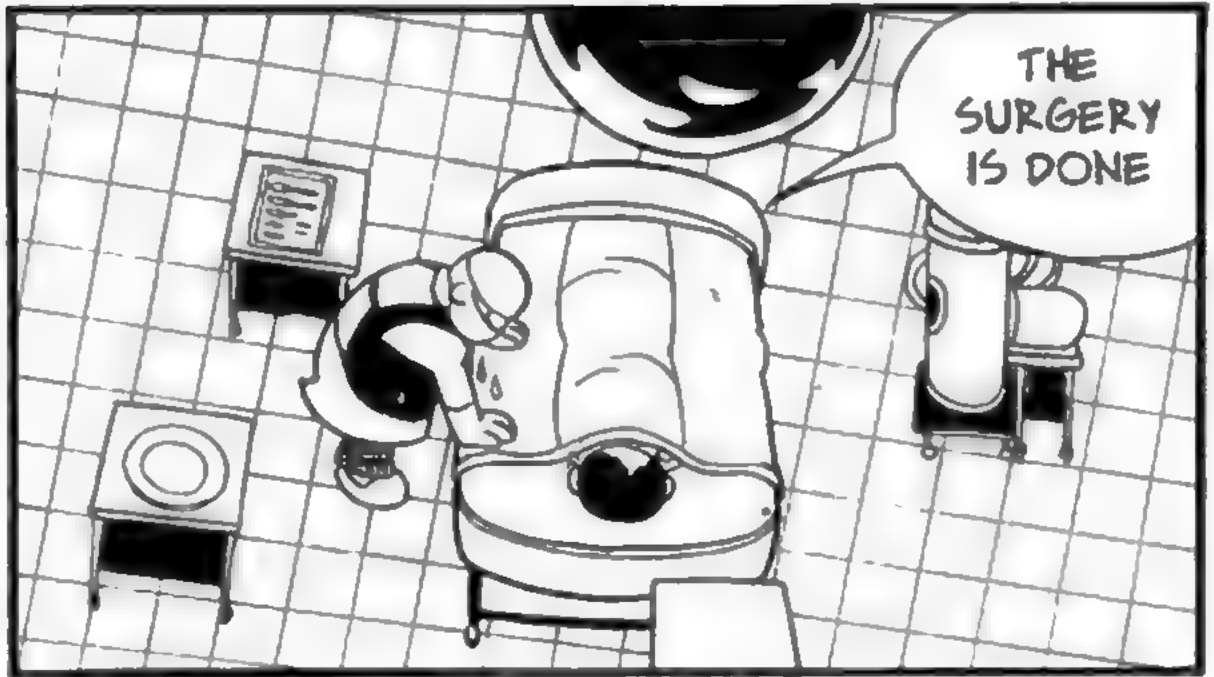


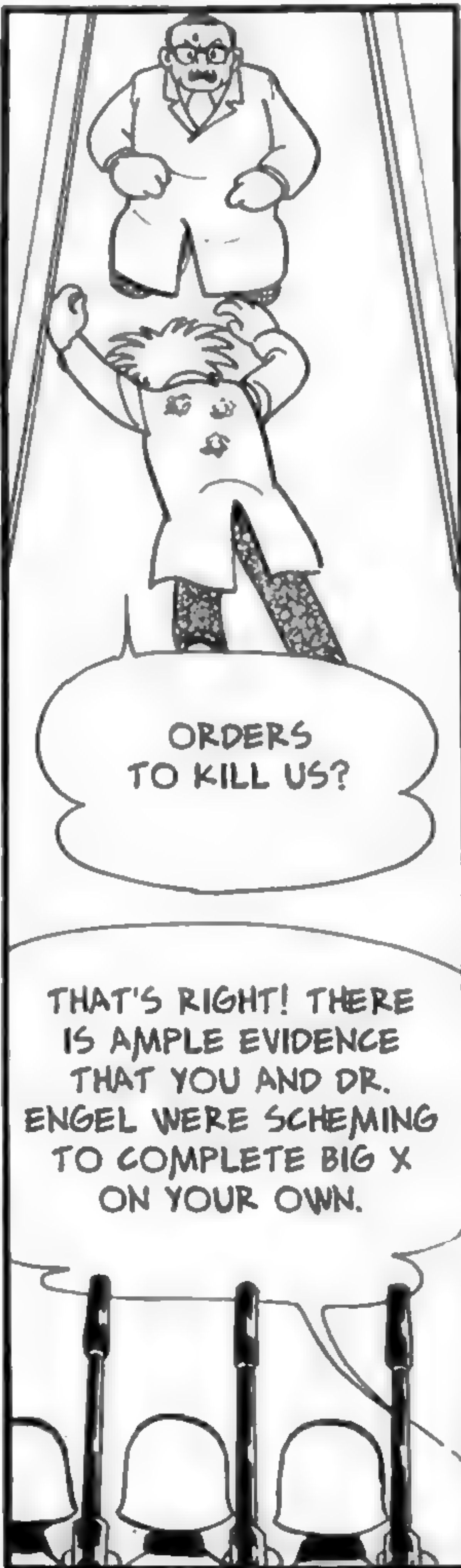


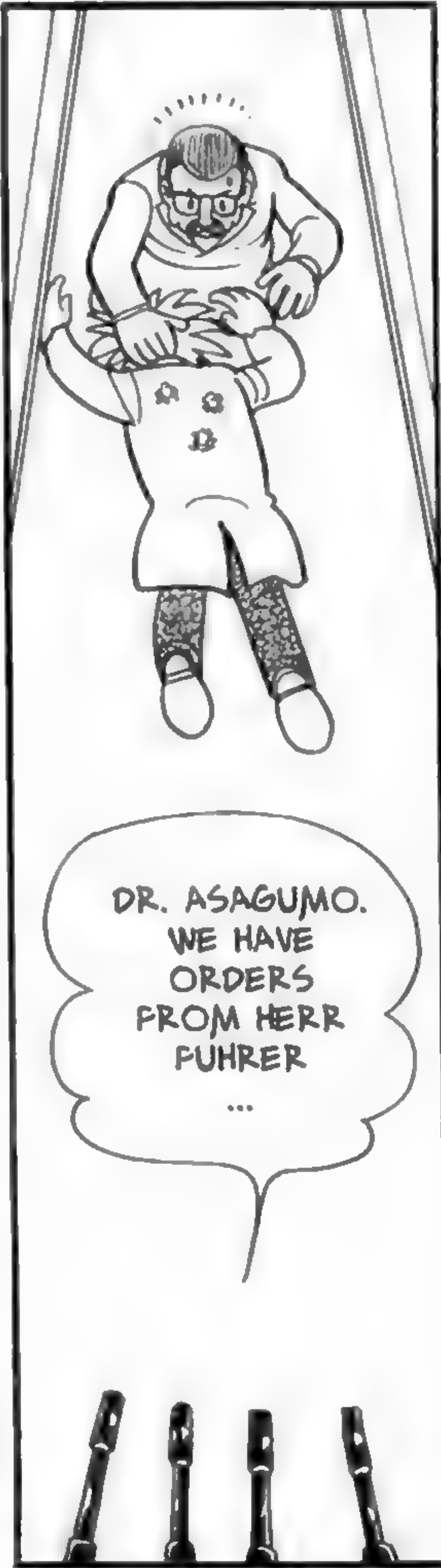


MACHINE GUN FIRE

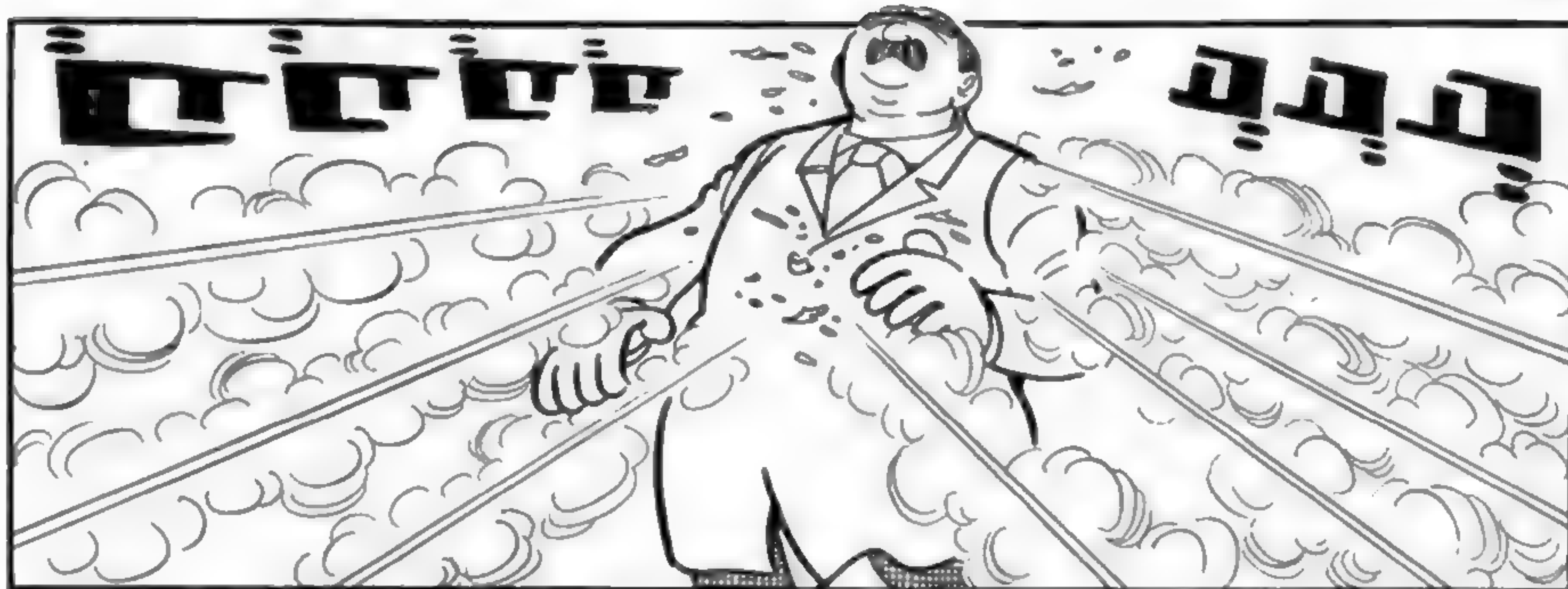






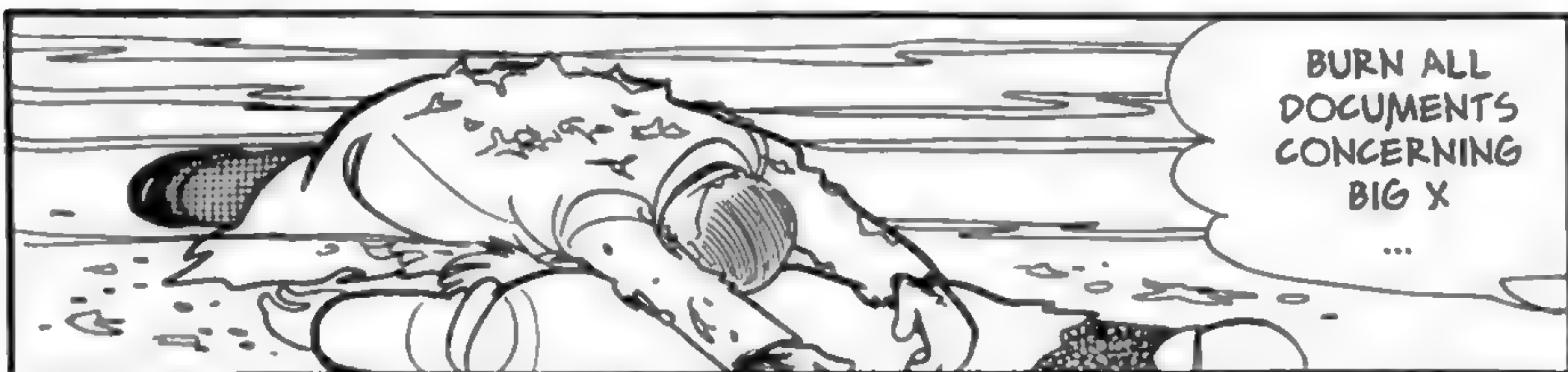


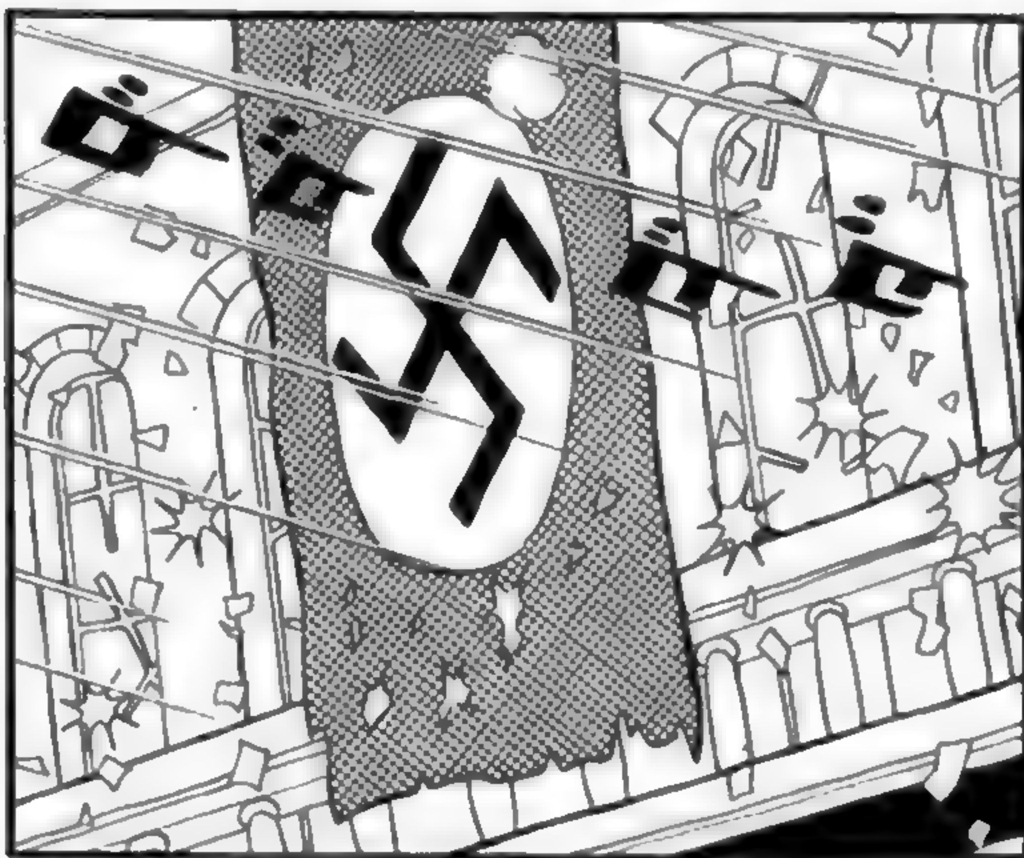




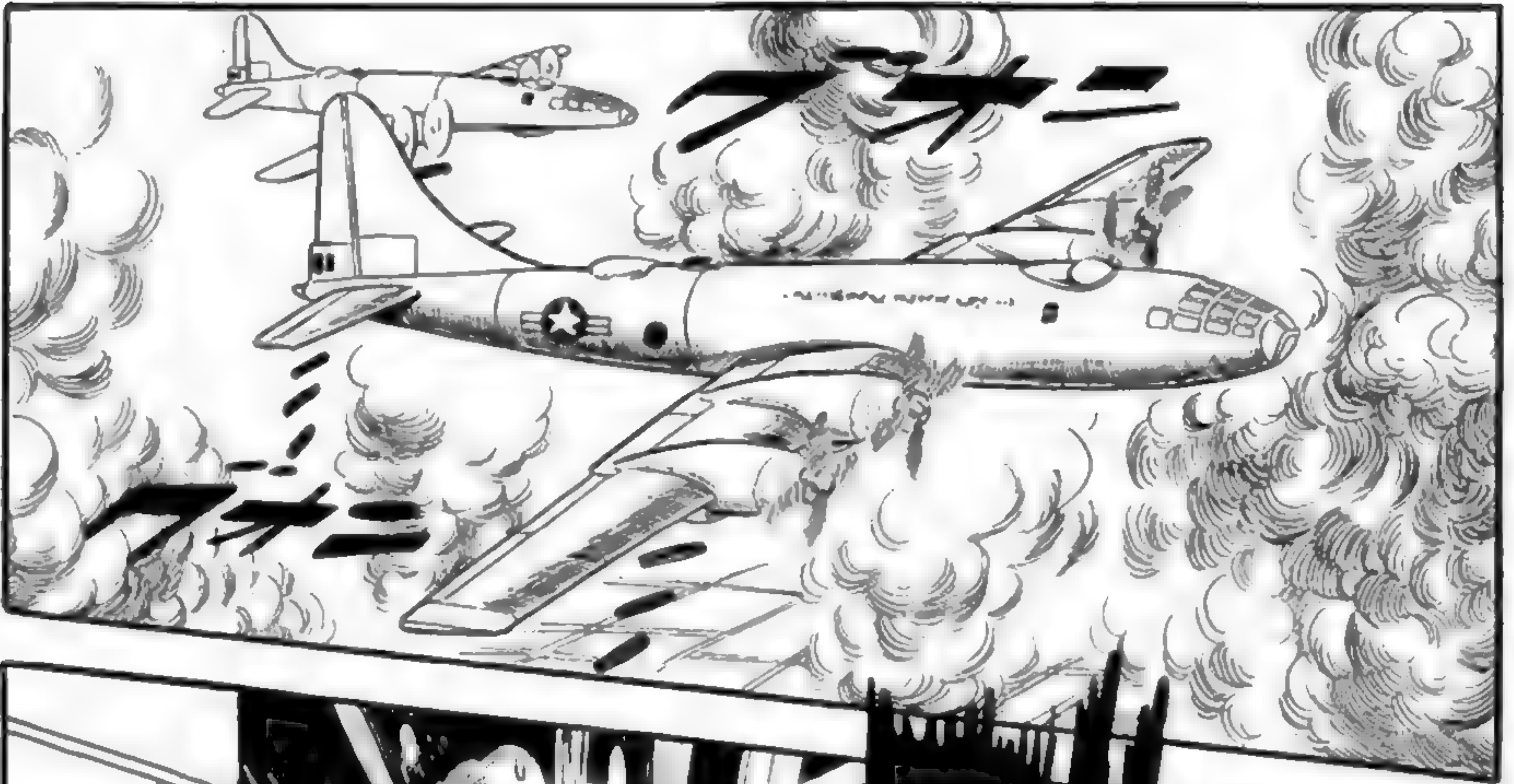





BURN ALL DOCUMENTS CONCERNING BIG X
...







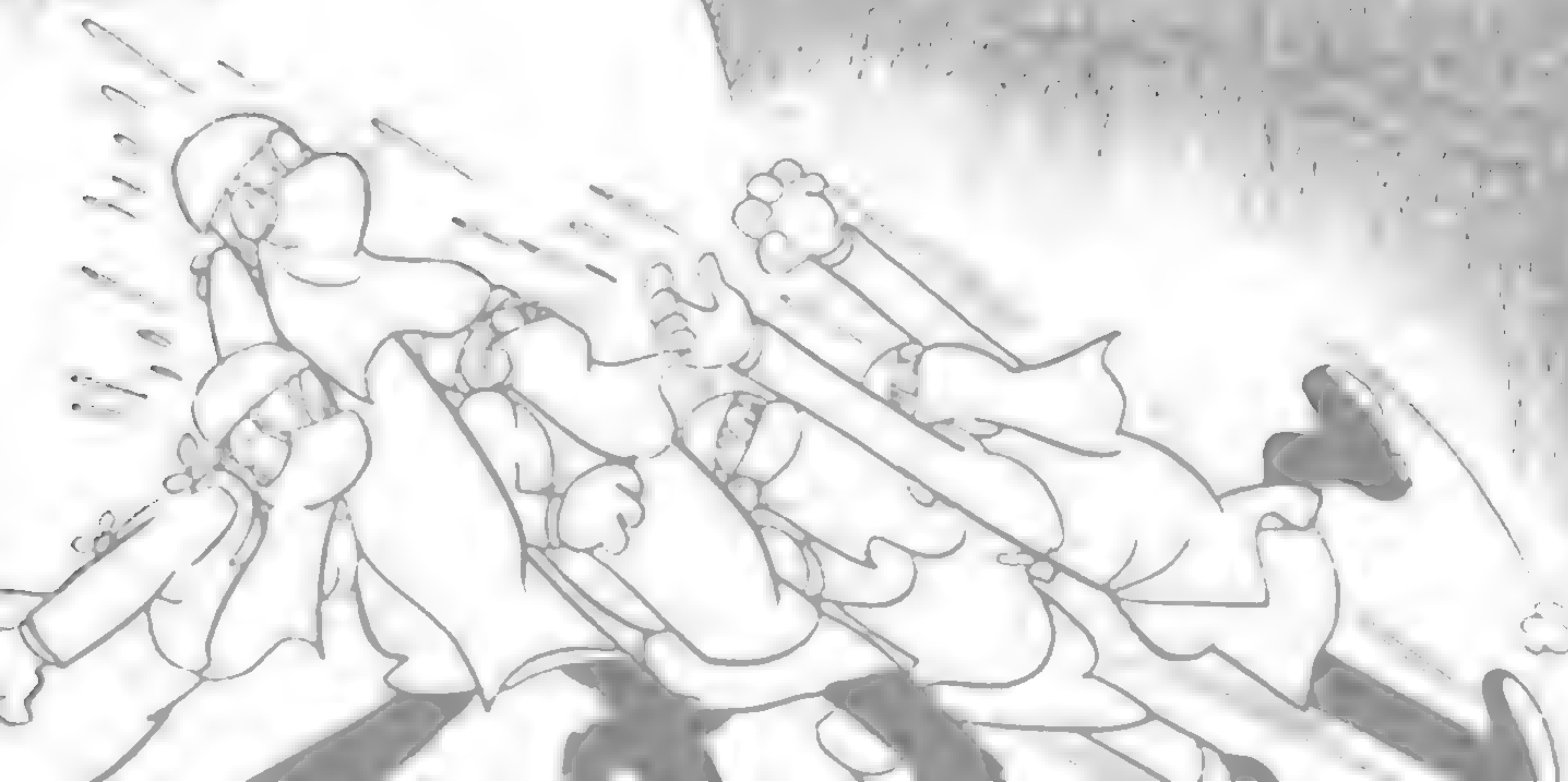






BERLIN HAS FALLEN.
GERMANY HAS SURRENDERED
HOWEVER
THE SECRET OF BIG X IS HIDDEN INSIDE OF SHIGERU'S BODY
...

CHAPTER 1
OPERATING ROOM INTRUDER



20 YEARS LATER
FEBRUARY 7, 1965
TOKYO



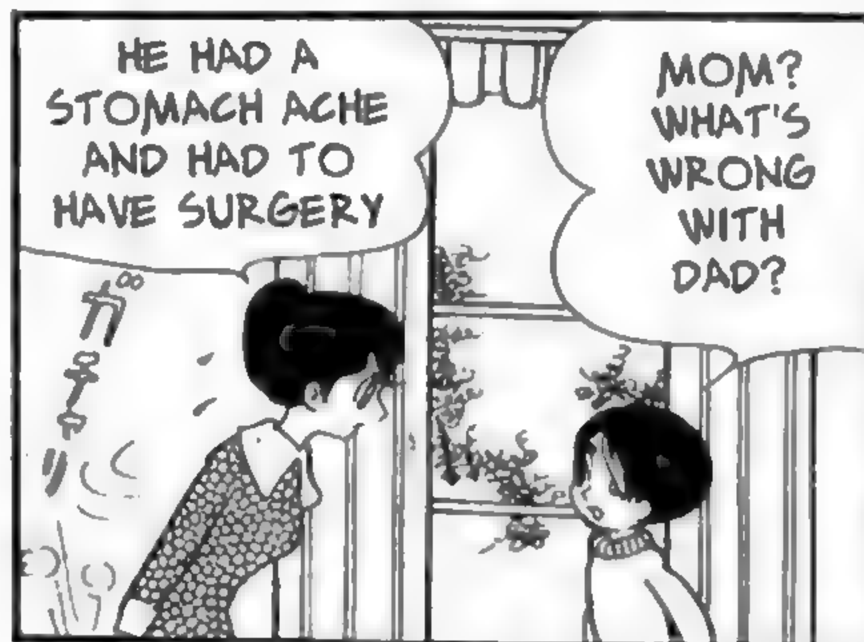




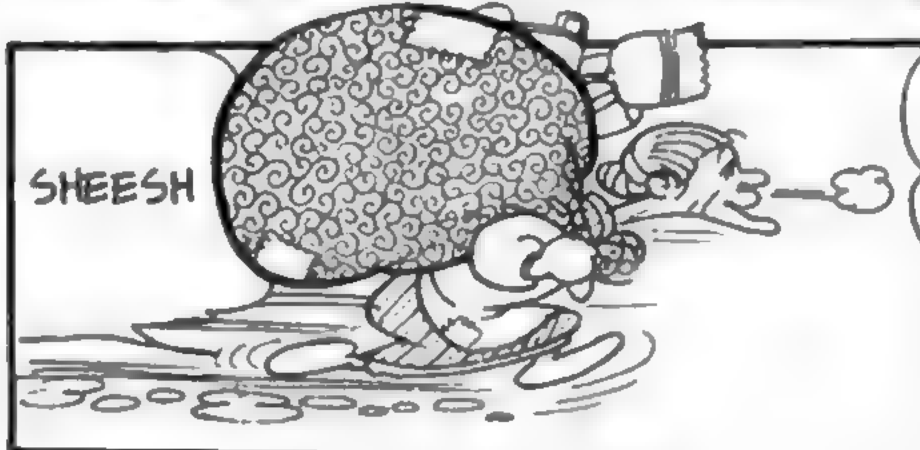

HE HAS A SUDDEN STOMACH ACH?


WHAT? MY HUSBAND... AT THE HOSPITAL?

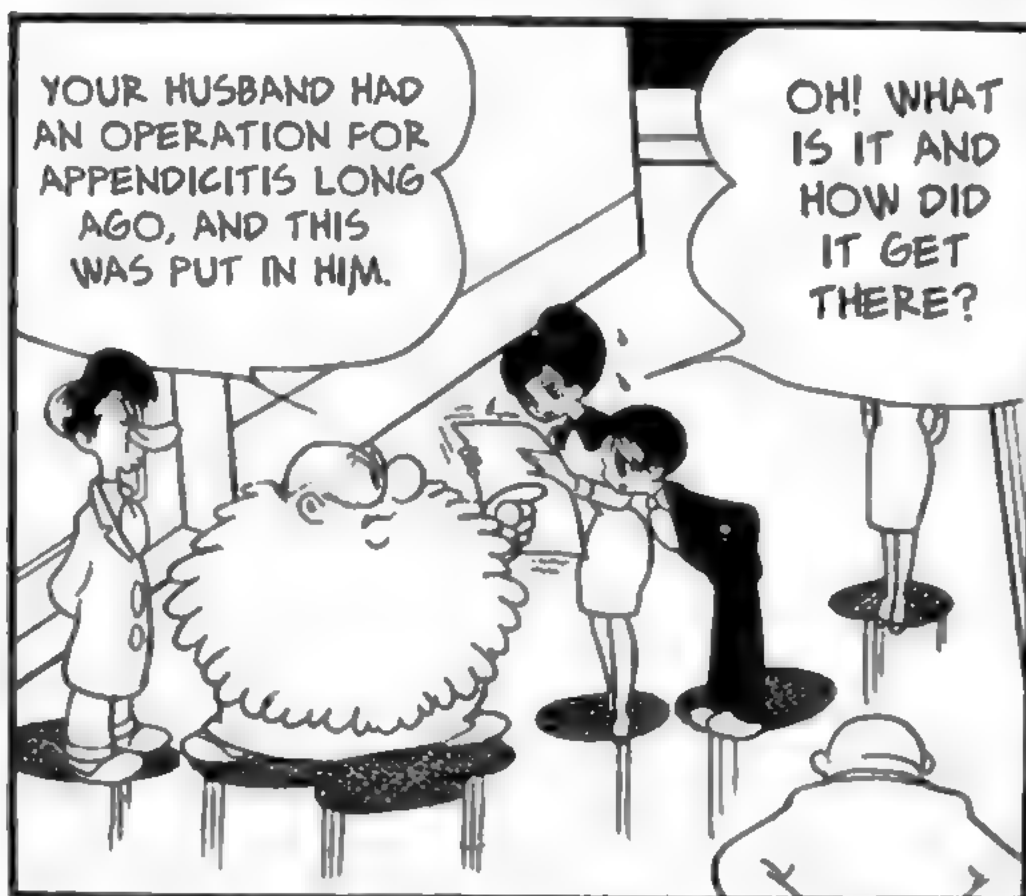



HE HAD A STOMACH ACHE AND HAD TO HAVE SURGERY
MOM? WHAT'S WRONG WITH DAD?


YES! I WILL BE RIGHT THERE!


SHEESH


I'M GOING HOME!
HEATHER, WHAT IS GOING ON?


YOUR HUSBAND HAD AN OPERATION FOR APPENDICITIS LONG AGO, AND THIS WAS PUT IN HIM.
OH! WHAT IS IT AND HOW DID IT GET THERE?


WE FOUND THIS THING HERE ON THE X RAY


OH?
MISS... YOU HAVE A PHONE CALL


HE'S HAVING SURGERY RIGHT NOW. I CAN TAKE IT OUT.
手術室


HELLO? WHO IS THIS?


IT'S ME... IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME EH?


YOU!


ARE YOU REALLY SO SURPRIZED?
I HEAR YOUR HUSBAND IS HOSPITALIZED, RIGHT MADAM?


YES, BUT HOW DO YOU KNOW?
I'M DISPLEASED YOU'VE NEGLECTED TO REPORT IN.


NUMBER 47. HAVE YOU FORGOT YOUR TRAINING? NO ROMANCE.


AREN'T YOU STILL ONE OF US?
YES, BUT.. DON'T PUT THIS ON ME NOW


YES..... BUT...
WE HAD A BABY...
SO I JUST...
WELL...
I FORGOT ABOUT IT.


MADAME YOU'LL BE KILLED AS A TRAITOR IF YOU FORGET YOUR MISSION


YOU'RE HERE TO UNCOVER THE SECRETS OF BIG X. YOU EVEN MARRIED ASAGUMO FOR THIS PURPOSE!




START TALK-ING


PLEASE FORGIVE ME! I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU WISH!

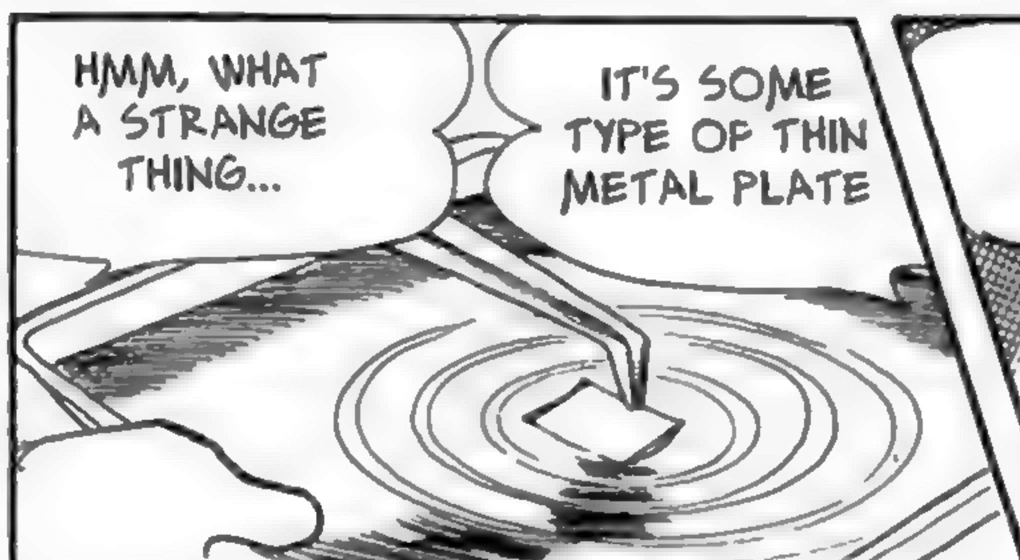

WHO WAS ON THE PHONE, MOM?
OH, IT'S NO-ONE


.....

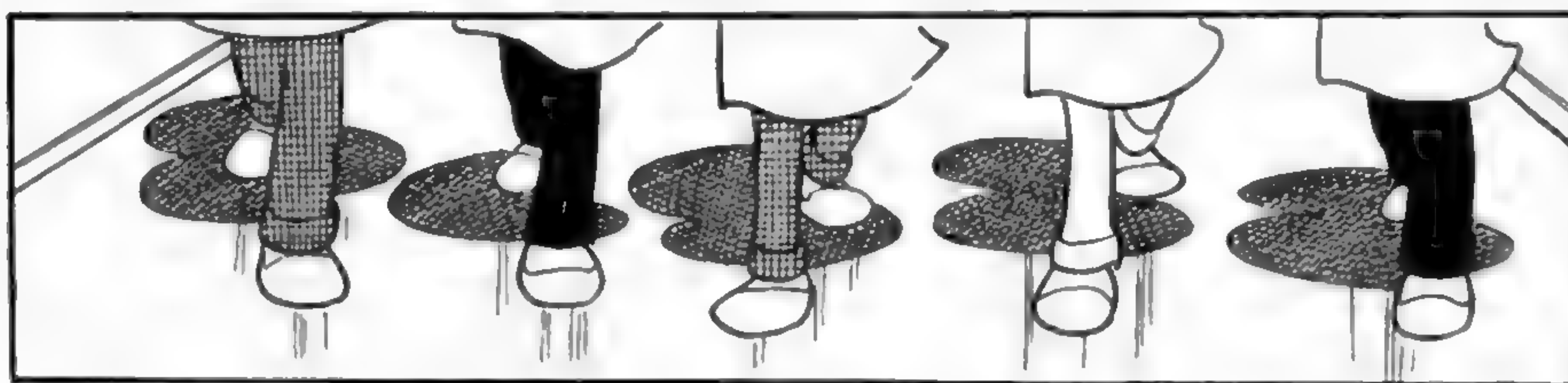

...YES...IN THE STOMACH... A STRANGE OBJECT... HE'S IN SURGERY...


DOCTOR


HOW DID THE OPER-ATION GO?


HMM, WHAT A STRANGE THING...
IT'S SOME TYPE OF THIN METAL PLATE

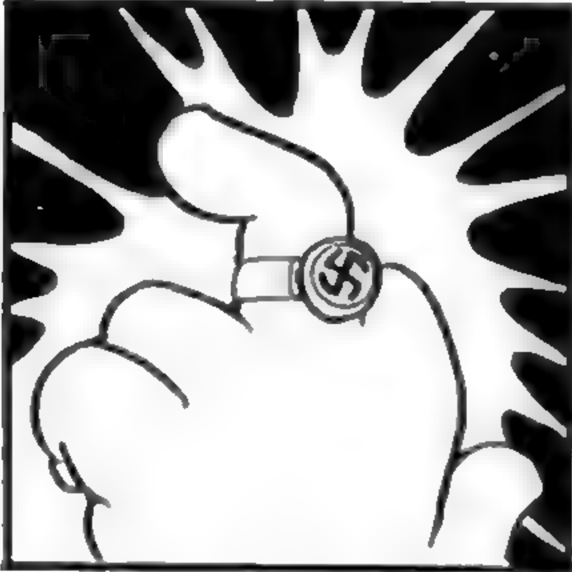

LOOK AT THIS!
THE SURGEON GOT IT OUT




WHAT DO YOU WANT?


WHO ARE YOU GUYS?


HANDS UP! DON'T MAKE A FUSS AND GET AGAINST THE WALL!
AHH!

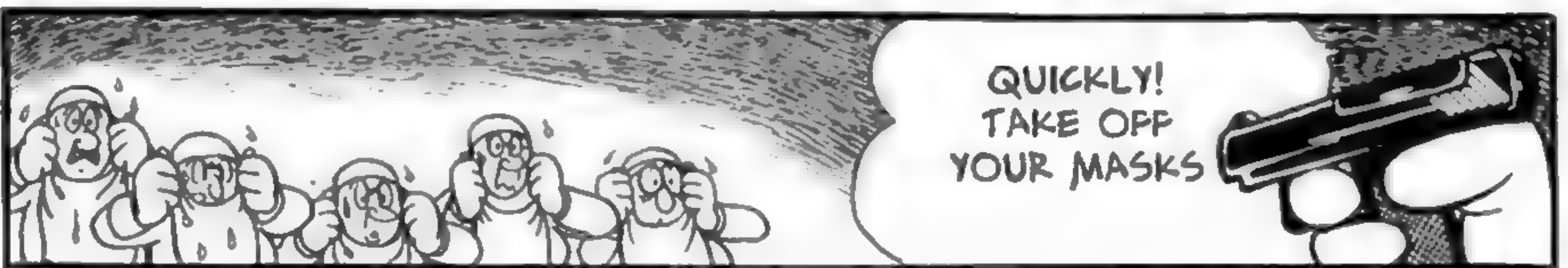


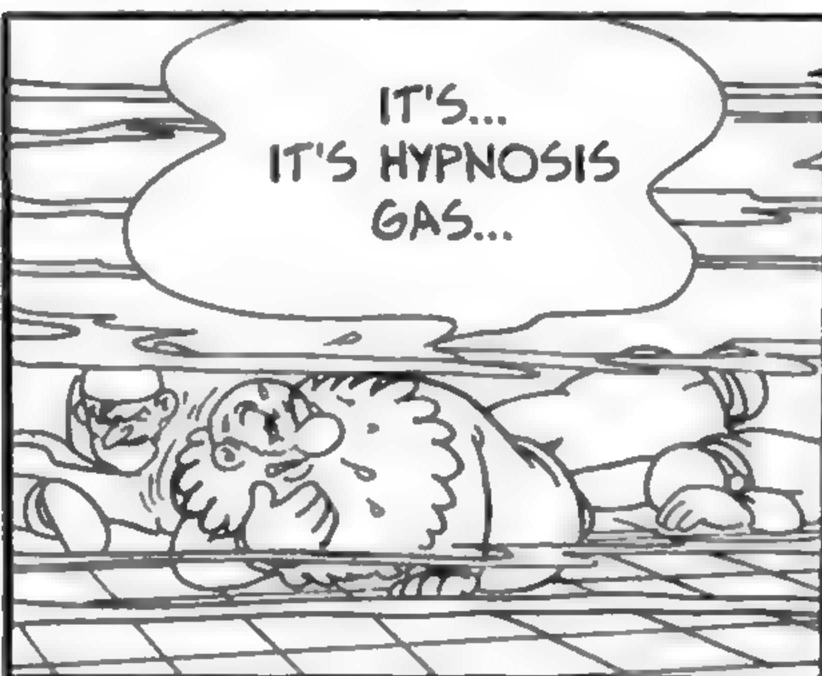

SECRET SOCIETY NAZI ALLIANCE!


WHAT? WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT?


AH! THE DOOR IS JAMMED!
IT'S BLOCKED FROM THE INSIDE!

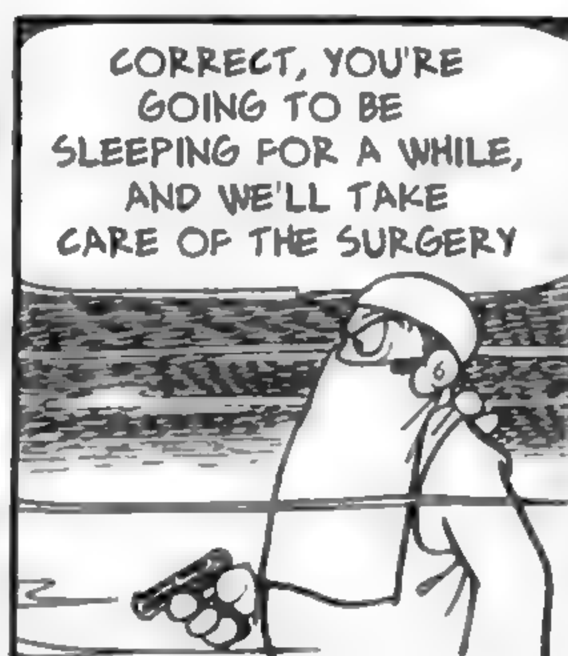

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT A BUNCH OF CREEPS JUST SNUCK IN

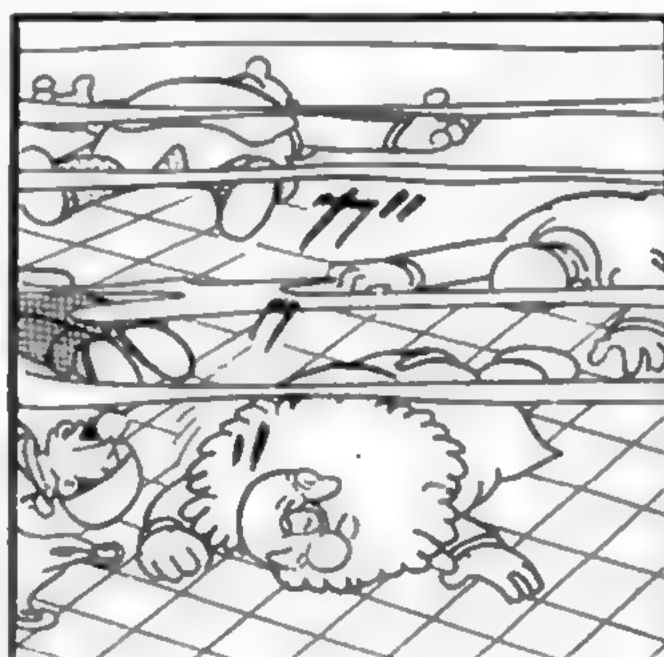

QUICKLY! TAKE OFF YOUR MASKS


IT'S... IT'S HYPNOSIS GAS...


AIGH!


CONTINUE THE OPERA-TION


CORRECT, YOU'RE GOING TO BE SLEEPING FOR A WHILE, AND WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE SURGERY




IT CAN'T BE!
IT'S DONE?


BUT... THE OPERATION IS DONE!



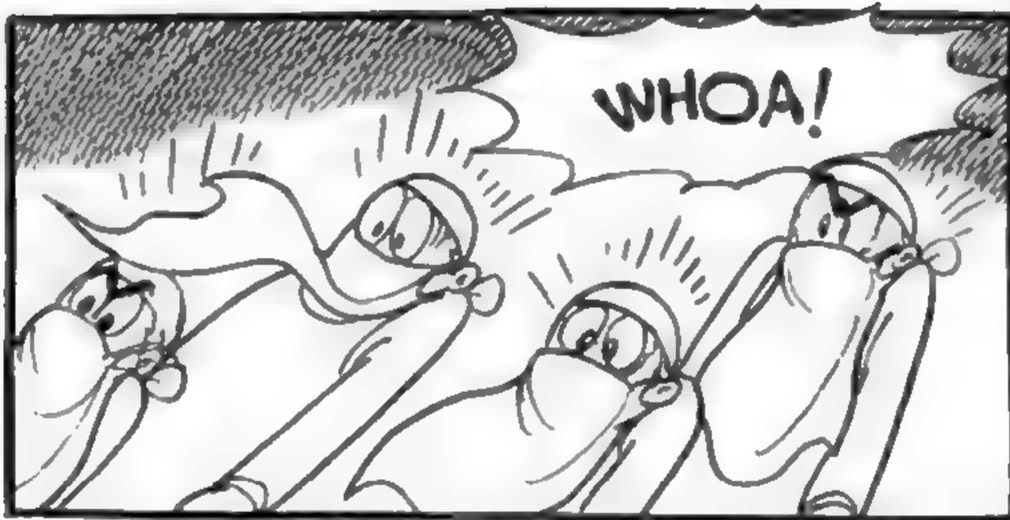

IT MUST BE AROUND HERE SOME PLACE

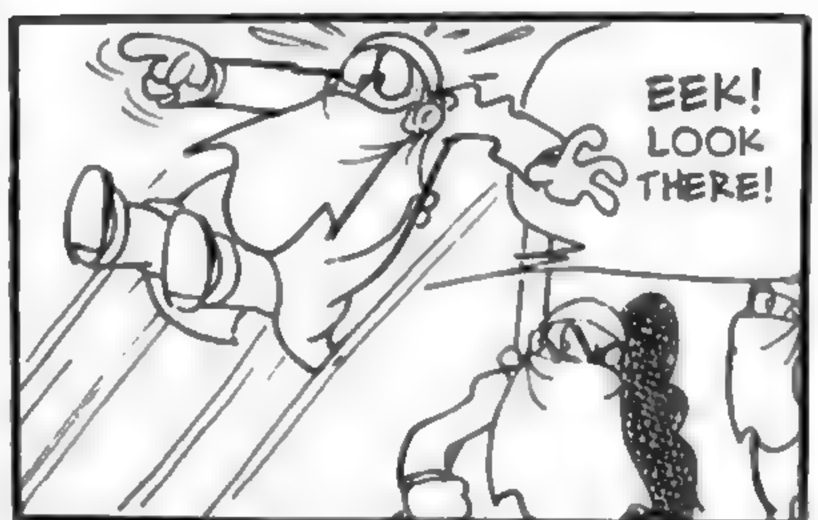

DAMN... THEN THEY MUST HAVE ALREADY TAKEN OUT THE PLATE!


LET'S PULL THE PLUG ON THIS FOR NOW

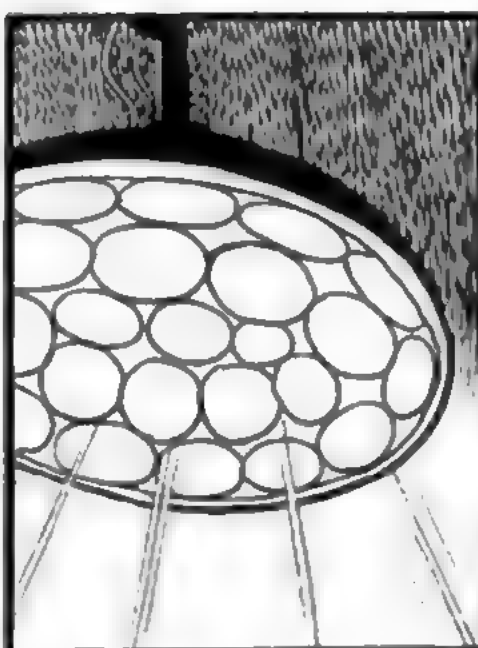

KEEP LOOKING! IT'S GOT TO BE HERE!

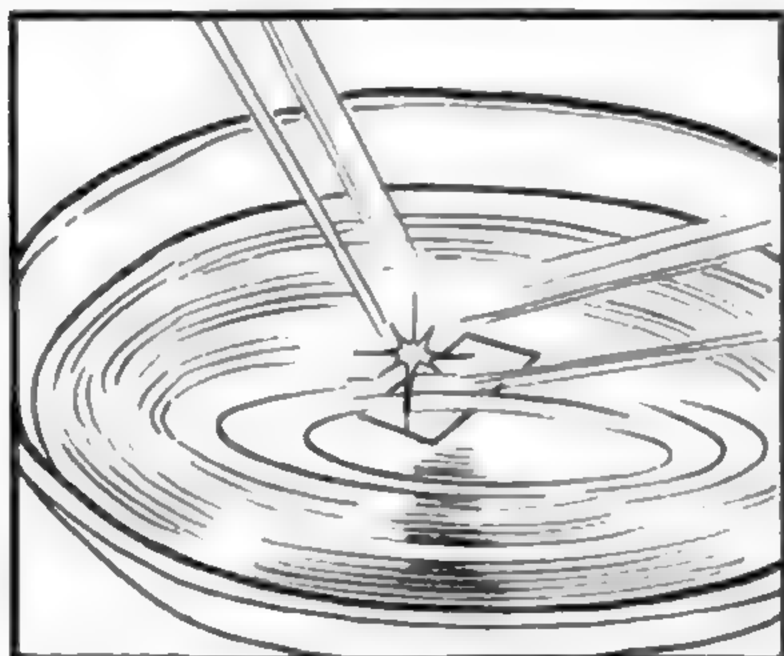

IT'S NOWHERE TO BE FOUND!

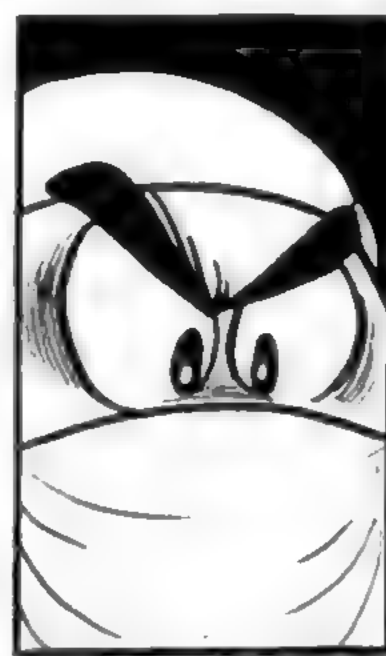
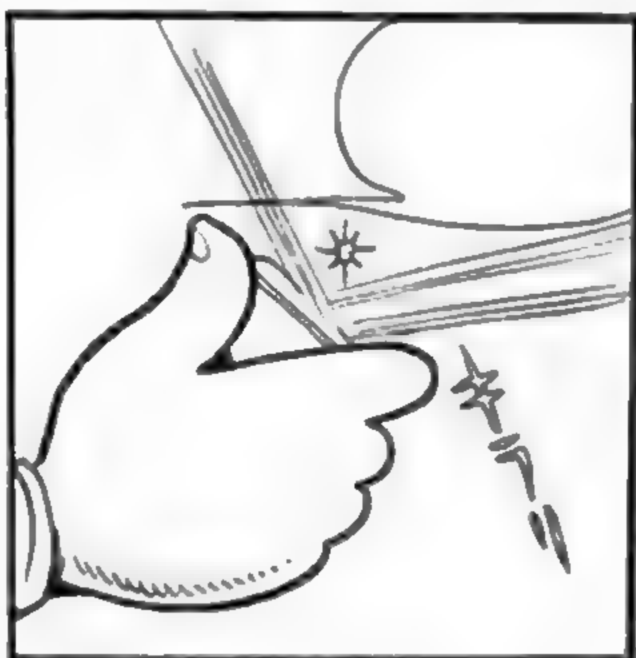

WHOA!


EEK! LOOK THERE!





WAIT, IT'S A REFLECTION


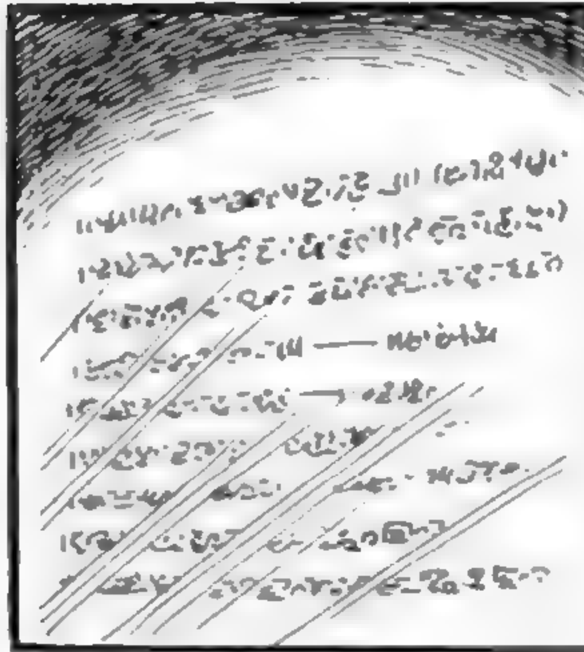





IT'S JUST A DURALUMIN PLATE, BUT IT'S GOT THESE INVISIBLE BUMPS ON IT THAT REFLECT THE LIGHT ....
THUS MAKING THIS SHADOW

IT'S A REFLECTION OF THIS GUY


THERE'S WRITING



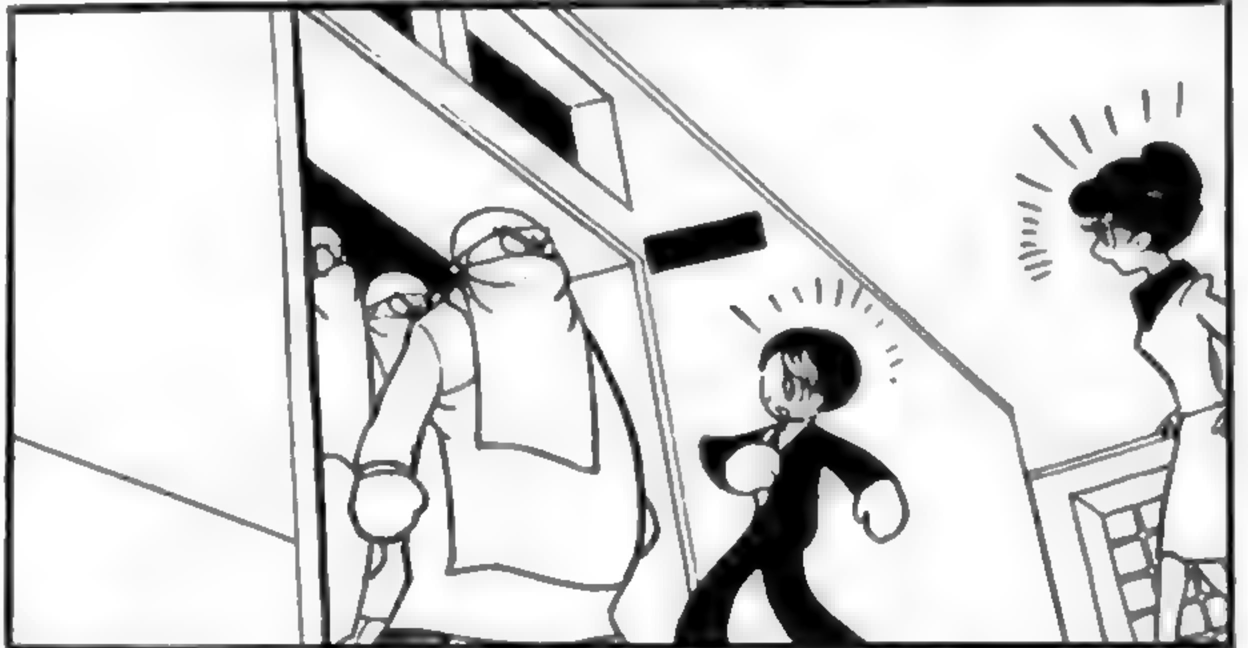

TRY THE OTHER SIDE


WHAT ARE YOU HANGING AROUND FOR? LET'S GET GOING!


THIS MUST BE THE SECRET PLANS OF BIG X
THIS IS GOOD NEWS

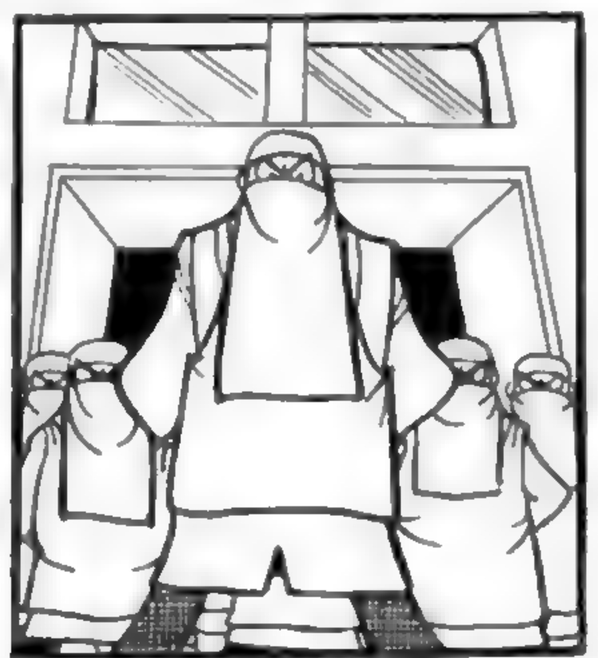

WELL THEN...





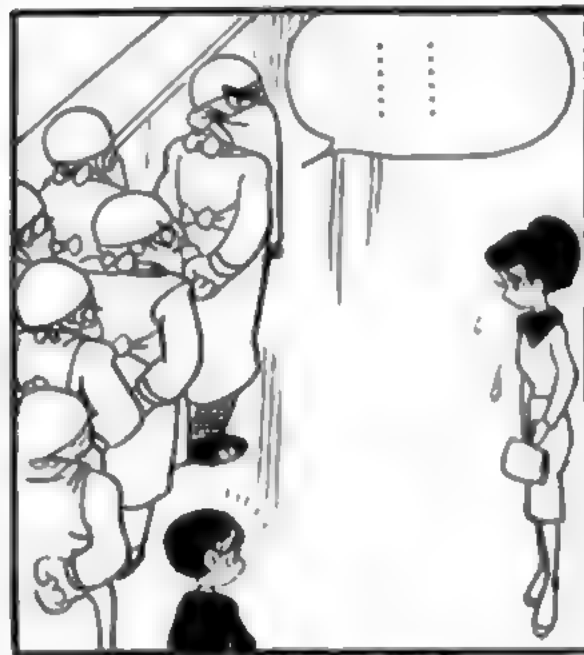


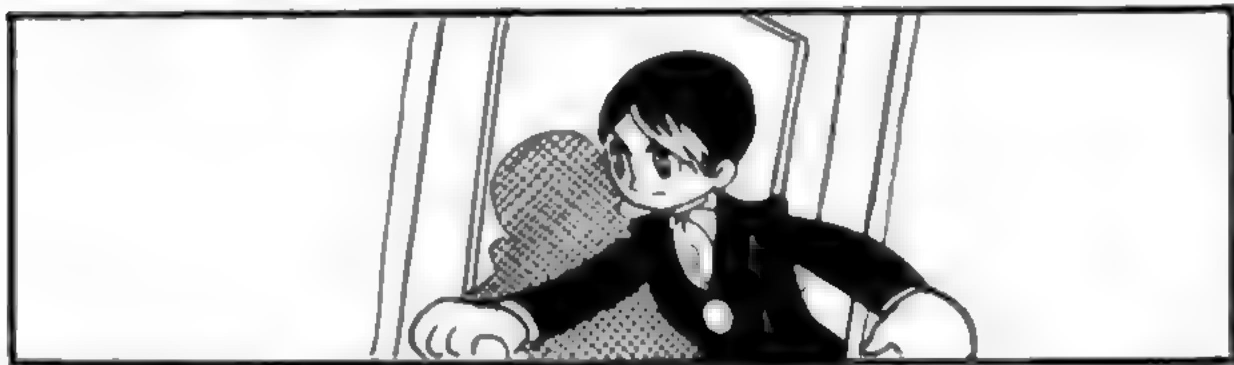


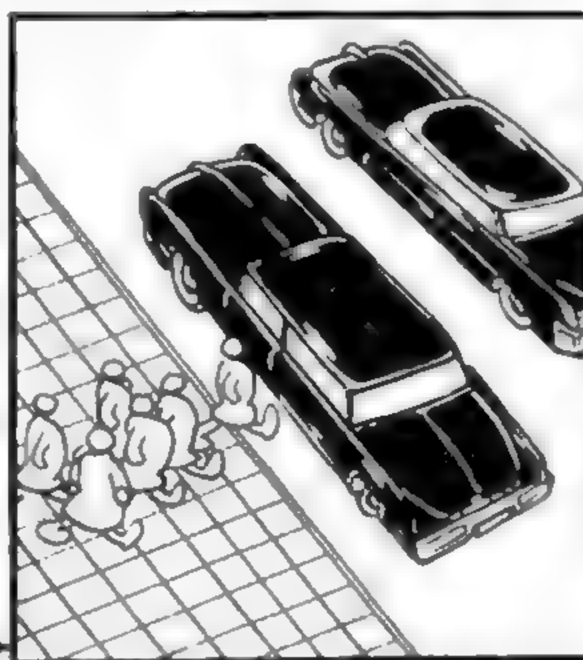


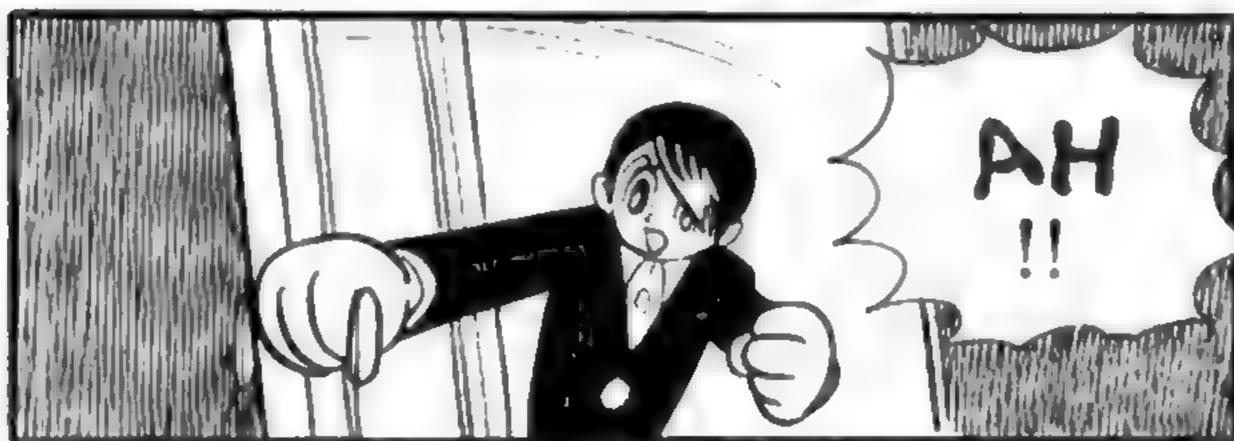

THAT DOCTOR KNOWS MY MOM?







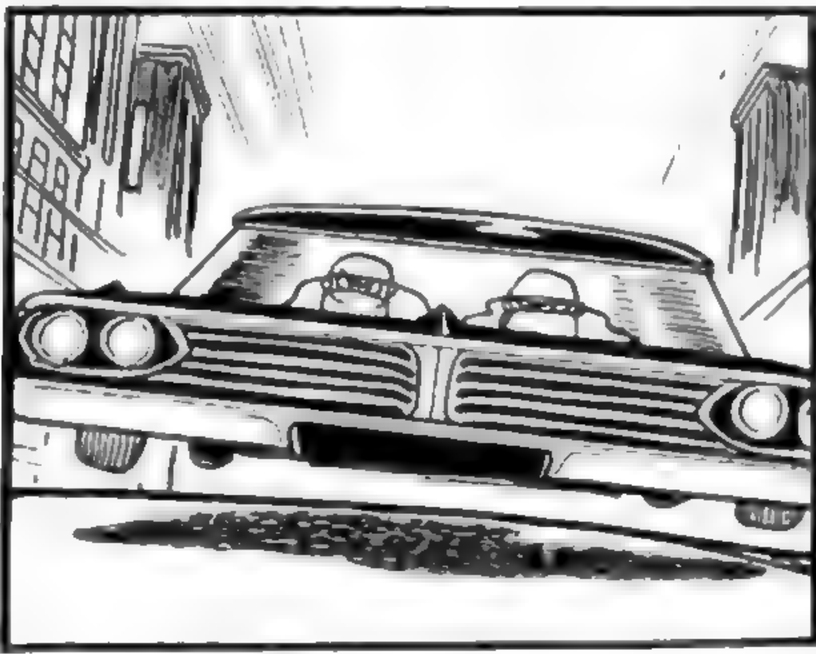



AH !!



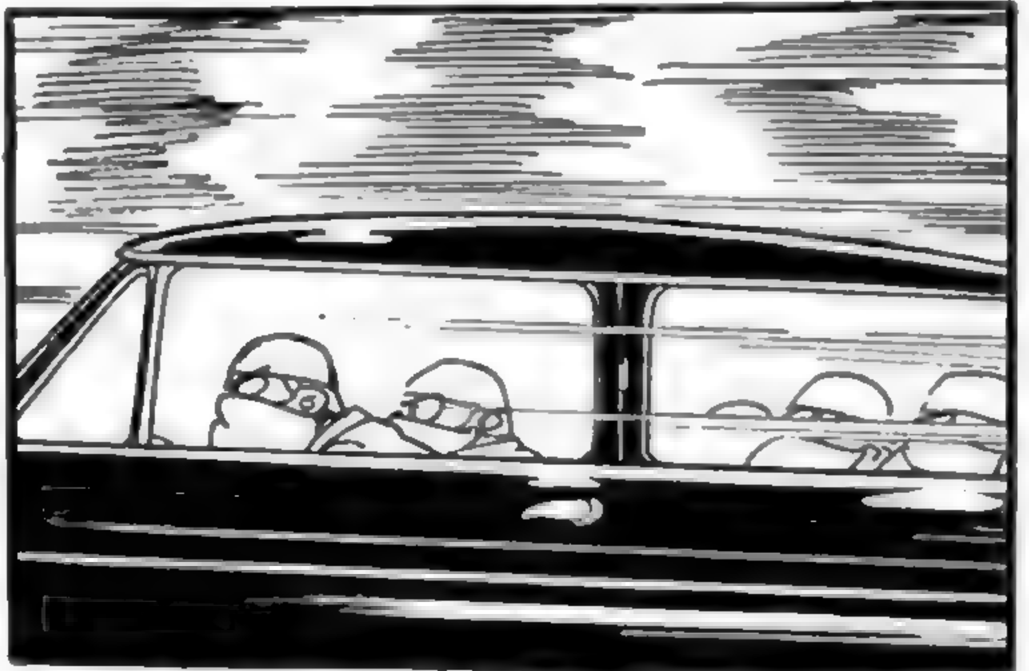

THOSE BASTARDS WEREN'T DOCTORS!

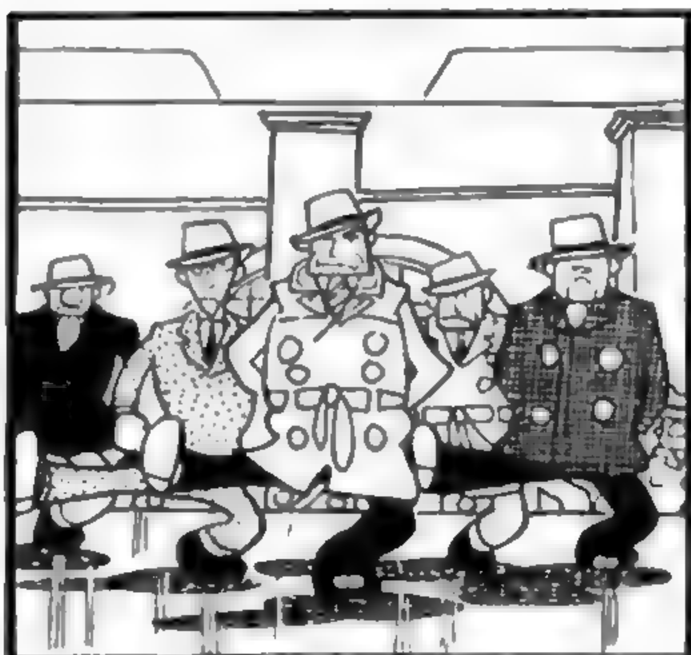


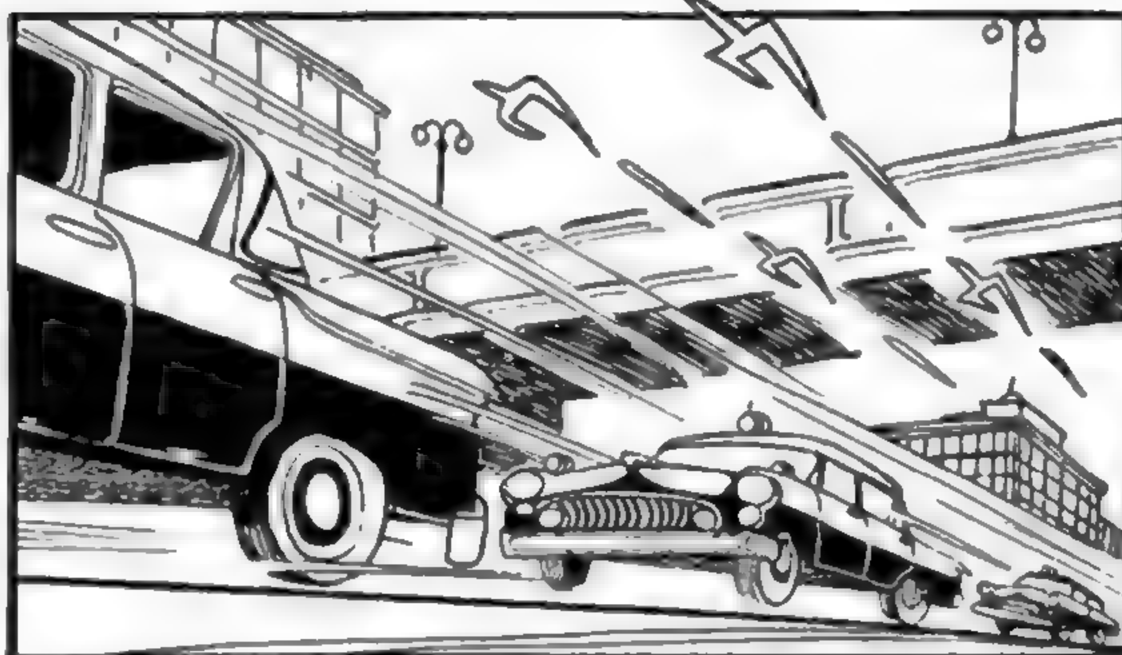





THE SECRET OF BIG X IS IN MY HANDS!







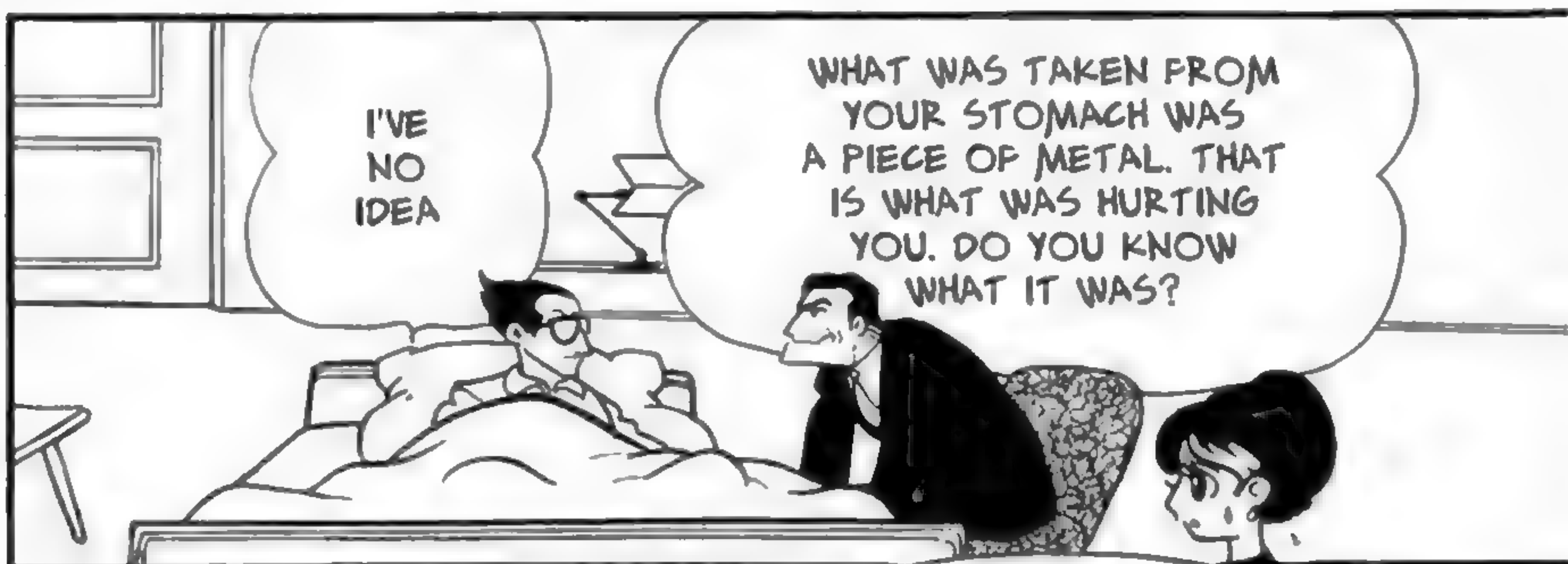

"NAZI ALLIANCE" LIKE REAL NAZIS?


WHAT DID THE BANDITS DO WHEN THEY BROKE INTO THE OPERATING ROOM?
THEY CALLED THEM-SELVES THE NAZI ALLIANCE


IT'S BEEN ALMOST 20 YEARS SINCE THE FALL OF NAZI GERMANY, AND I'M SURPRISED THERE'S NAZIS IN JAPAN.
EVEN IN GERMANY THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO STILL ADMIRE HITLER AND ARE TRYING TO REBUILD THE NAZI PARTY


YES THAT'S WHAT I SAID


THERE ARE PLENTY OF SECRET NAZI PARTY MEMBERS IN COUNTRIES ALL OVER THE WORLD
THOSE BANDITS WERE SOME OF THEM!


WHAT WAS TAKEN FROM YOUR STOMACH WAS A PIECE OF METAL. THAT IS WHAT WAS HURTING YOU. DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT WAS?
I'VE NO IDEA


DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG THAT PLATE HAS BEEN INSIDE YOU?
NO... NO I DON'T


I'M GOING TO GO DO A LITTLE SHOPPING
UM...

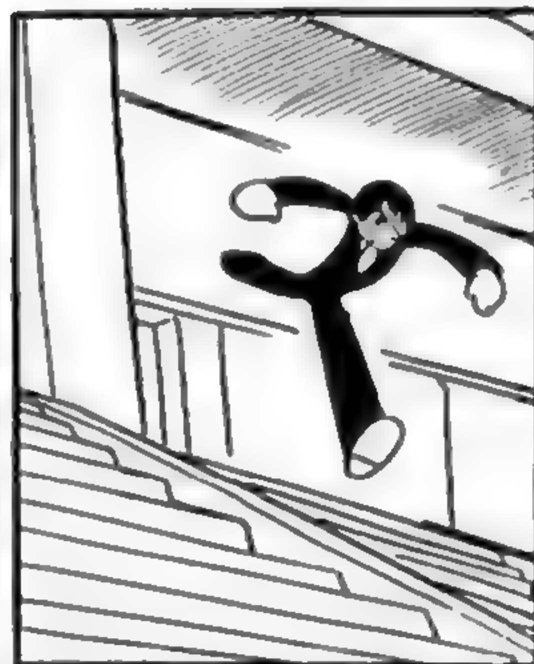


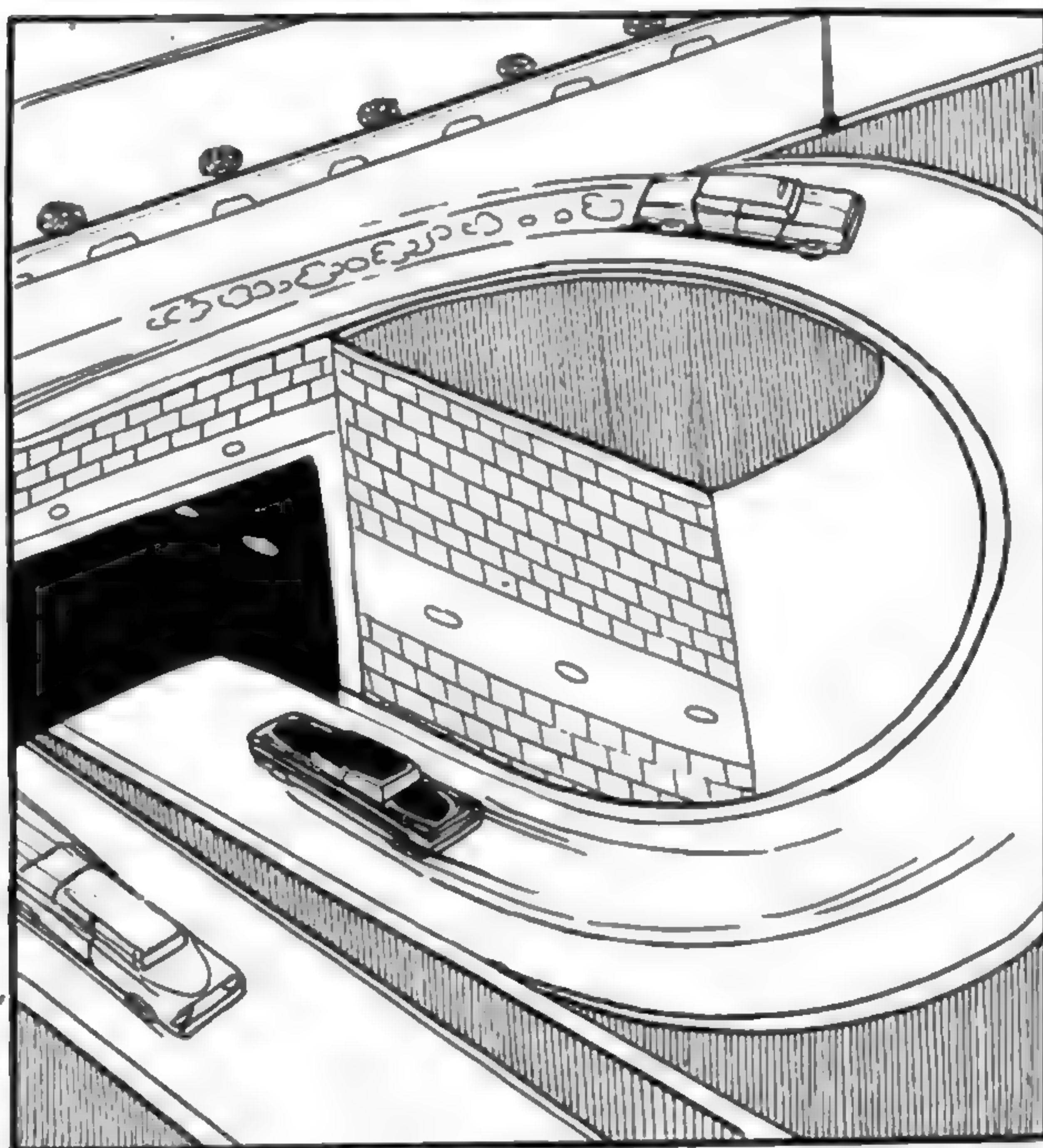

TO OMORI ...

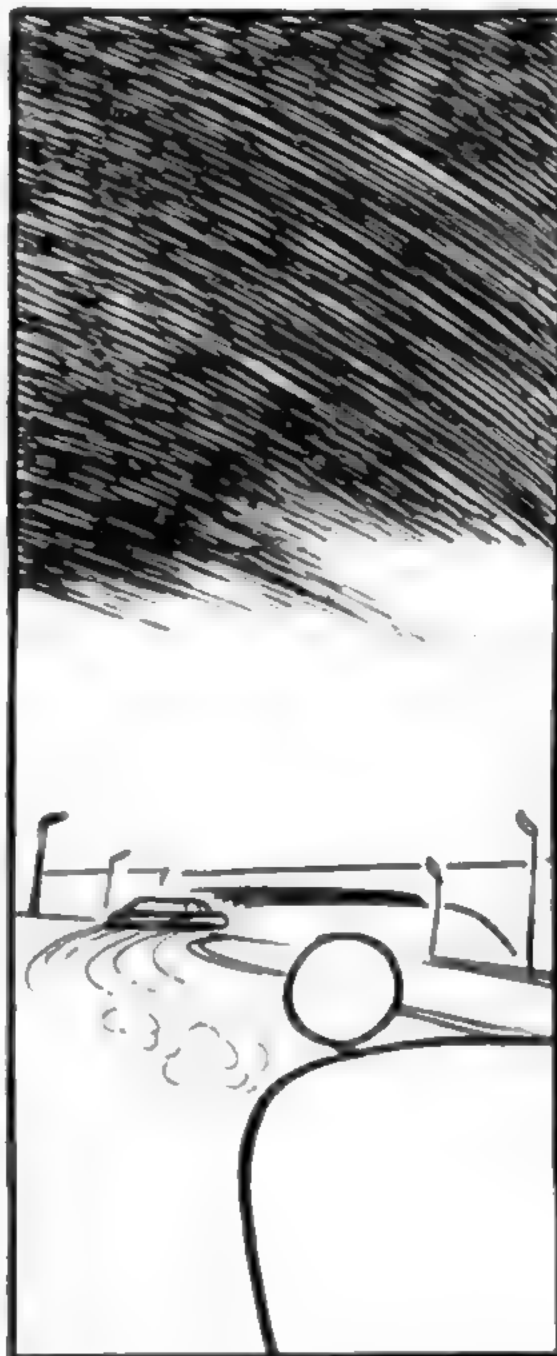




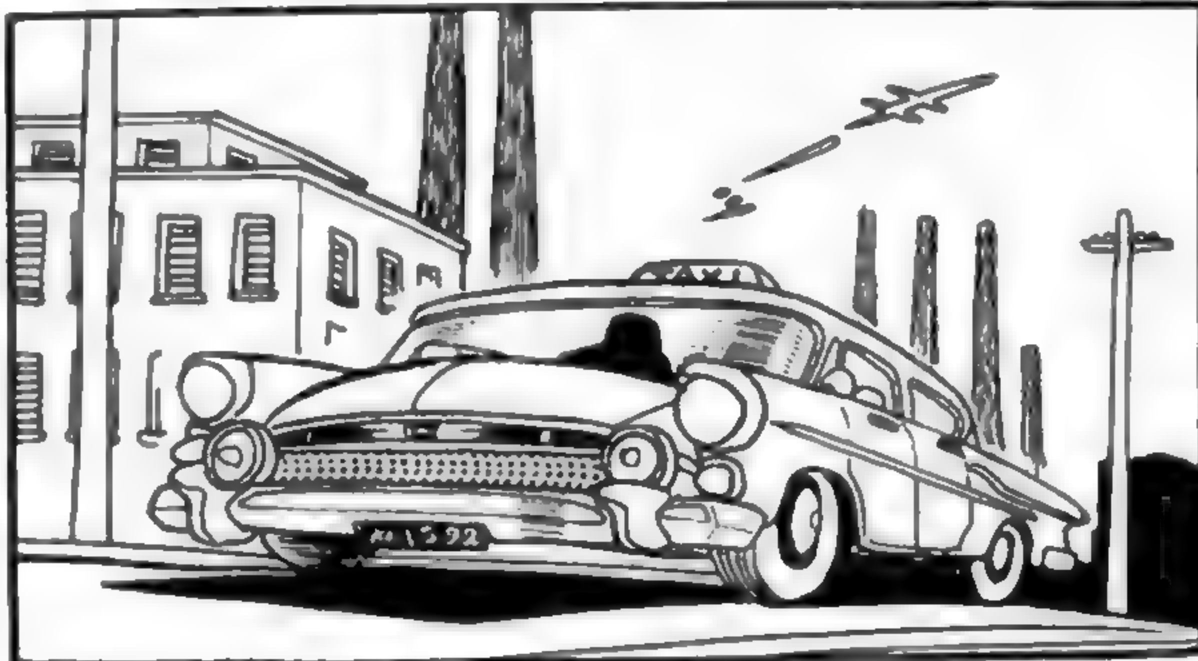

FOLLOW THAT CAR!



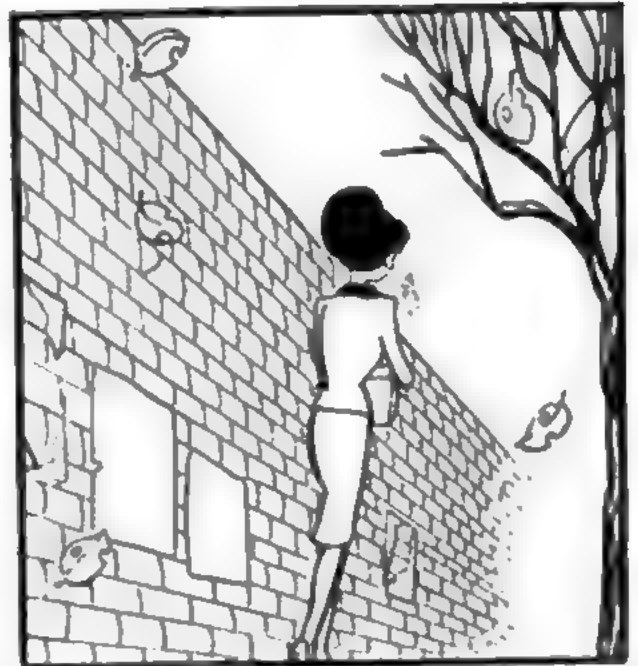




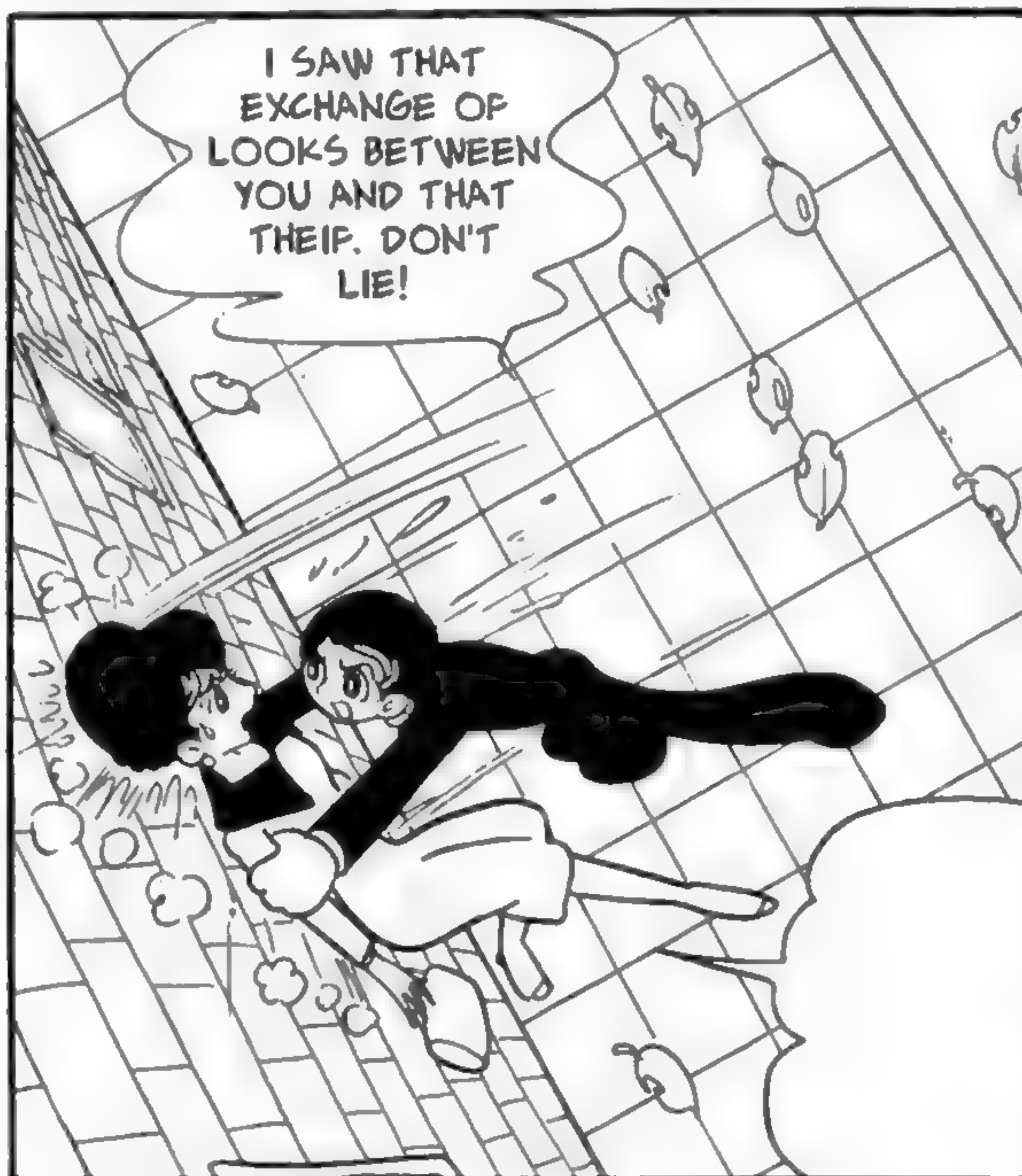

RIGHT HERE IS FINE


TAXI


AH! AKIRA! ..... OH DEAR...




MOM!


I SAW THAT EXCHANGE OF LOOKS BETWEEN YOU AND THAT THEIF. DON'T LIE!


WHY DID YOU COME WAY OUT HERE IN A TAXI?
AKIRA... YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE!


WHAT ARE YOU HIDING FROM US, MOM?


IF YOU CAN'T TELL ME ...
THEN I'M BREAKING ALL TIES WITH YOU!


AKIRA!
YOU CAN FIND SOME OTHER KID TO RAISE


WAIT, YOUR MOM HAS BEEN BAD


I DIDN'T WANT YOU OR YOUR DAD TO KNOW... I WANTED IT TO BE A SECRET FOREVER...


WILL YOU TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON?
DON'T BE SHOCKED BY WHAT I HAVE TO TELL YOU


YOUR MOTHER ISN'T REALLY JAPANESE, BUT A MIXED-RACE CHILD OF GERMAN AND CHINESE.


......


I WAS A SPY TRAINED BY THE GESTAPO WHEN I WAS YOUNG


THE GESTAPO RECRUITED BOYS AND GIRLS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD TO BECOME SPIES.
I WAS NUMBER 47


WHEN THE WAR WAS OVER THE GESTAPO WERE DISBANDED.
BUT NOT YOUR MOTHER. I GOT SECRET ORDERS TO CARRY OUT.


AND WHAT IS THE SECRET?


BUT WHY?


I MARRIED YOUR DAD ....


BIG X


BIG X ?


YOUR FATHER HAS A HIDDEN SECRET. I MARRIED HIM TO KEEP AN EYE ON HIM AND ONE DAY FIND IT.
7

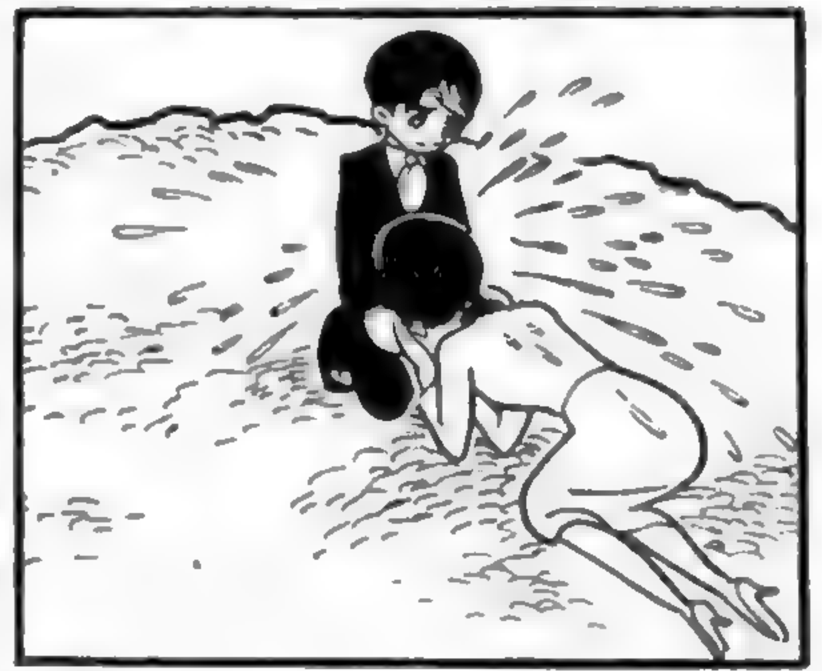

SO I APPROCHED HIM ON PURPOSE AND MADE HIM FALL IN LOVE WITH ME.
WE MARRIED ...


YES, IT WAS A GERMAN INVENTION


YOUR MOM WOUND UP TRULY FALLING IN LOVE WITH YOUR FATHER
BUT WE LIVED TO-GETHER FOR A LONG TIME

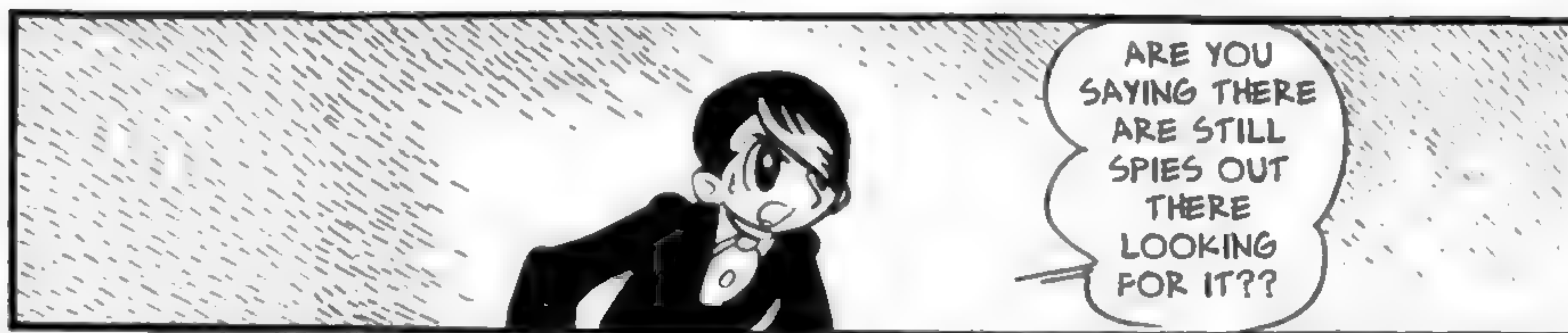

I WANTED TO FORGET MY PAST AS A SPY AND JUST LIVE MY LIFE WITH YOU AND YOUR FATHER.
AND THEN YOU WERE BORN

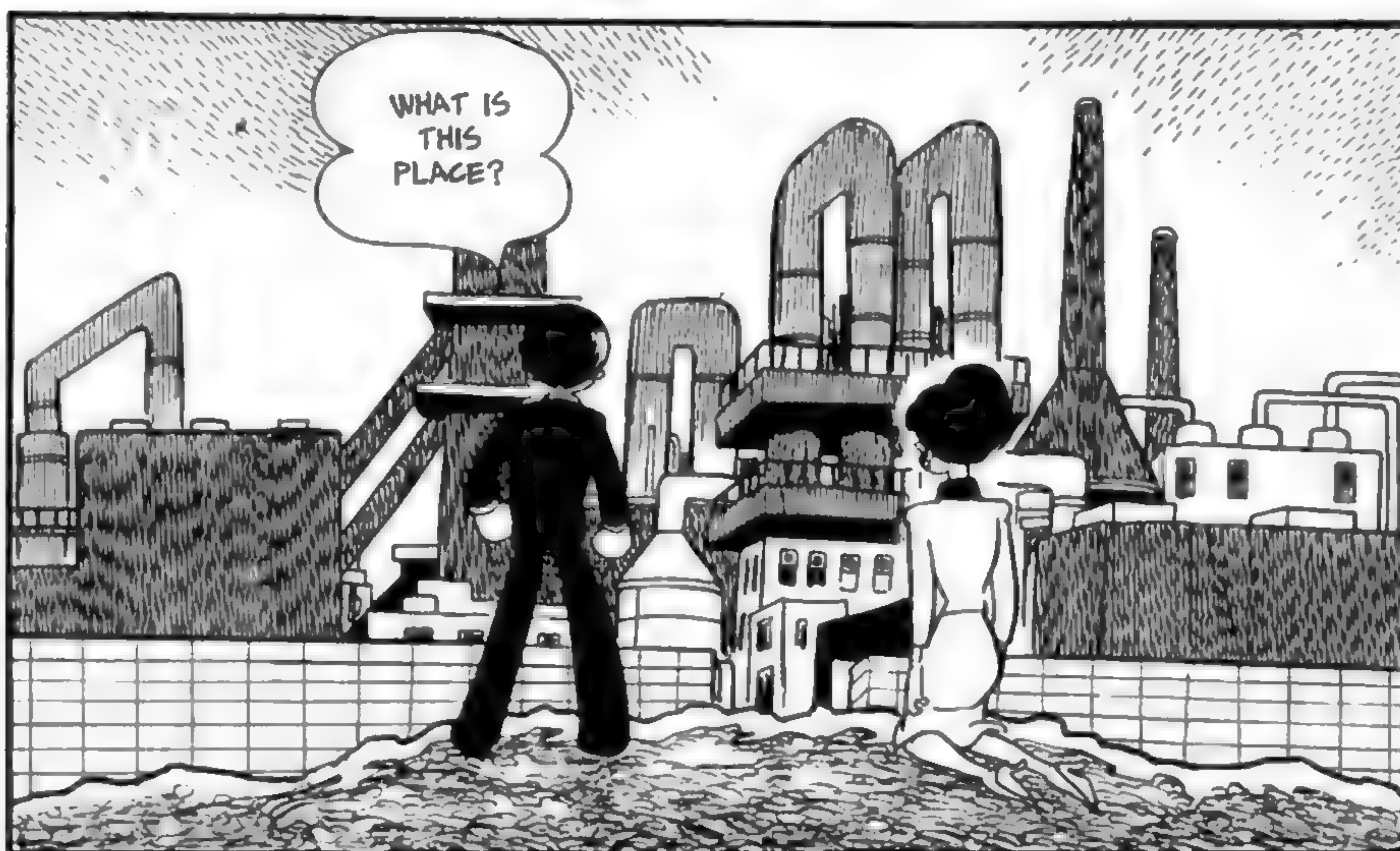

I DON'T CARE IF YOU AREN'T JAPANESE... BUT BEING A SPY
I'M SORRY ... AS A MATTER OF FACT...

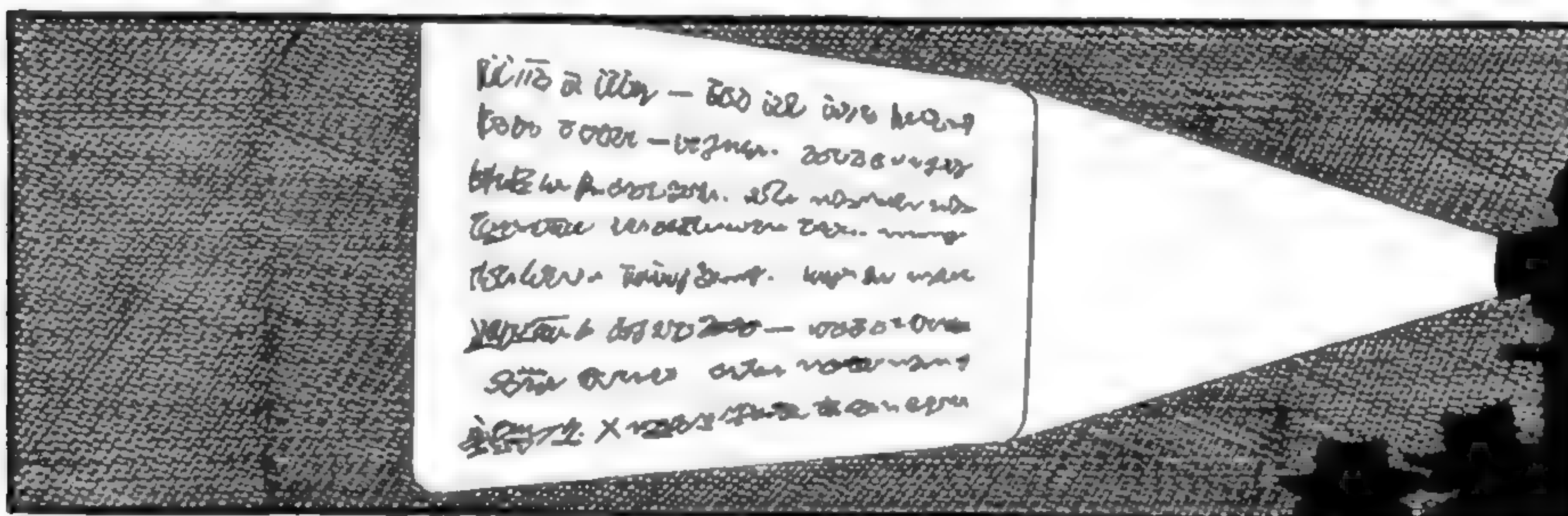


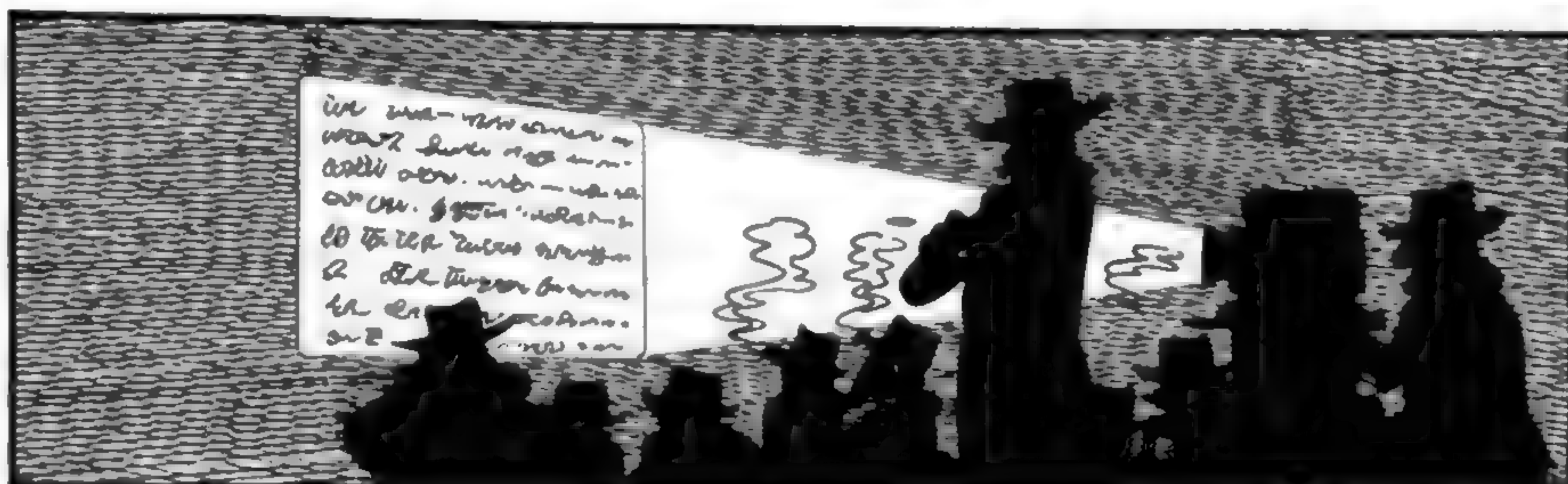

I'M DONE.... WE ALL CAME HERE TO FIND THE SECRET OF BIG X.
I'VE MADE UP MY MIND

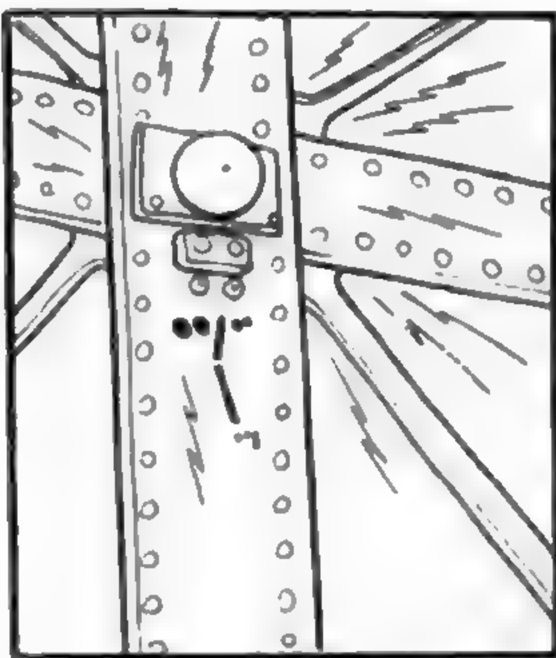

YES, BECAUSE I WANT TO BE YOUR MOM ....
WILL YOU STOP SPYING ON US?


ARE YOU SAYING THERE ARE STILL SPIES OUT THERE LOOKING FOR IT??


WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

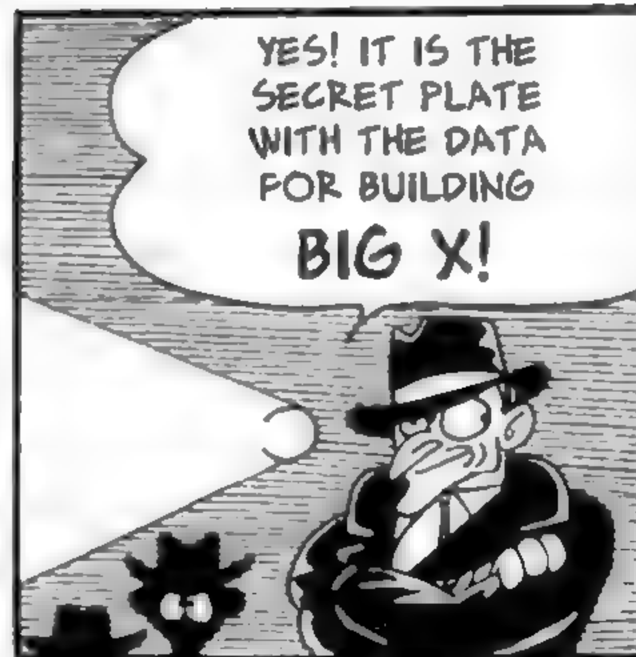








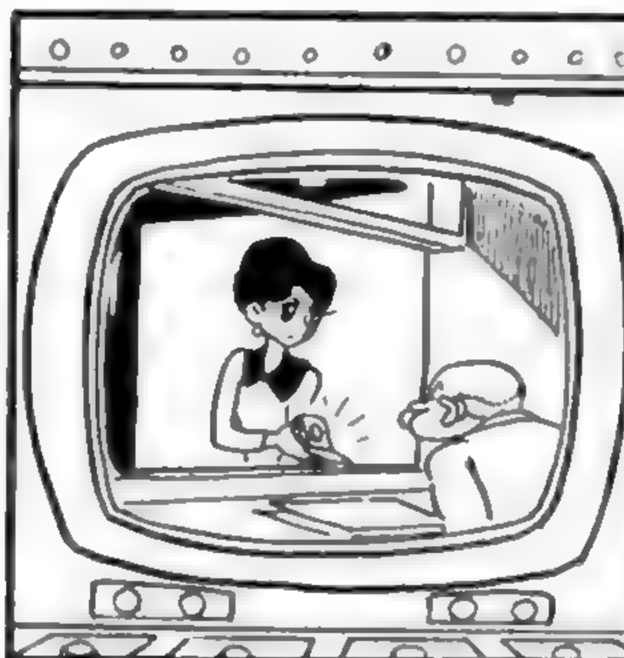
34. COPY THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREATING BIG X.
OKAY BOSS!



YES! IT IS THE SECRET PLATE WITH THE DATA FOR BUILDING BIG X!



47 HAS SHOWN UP!





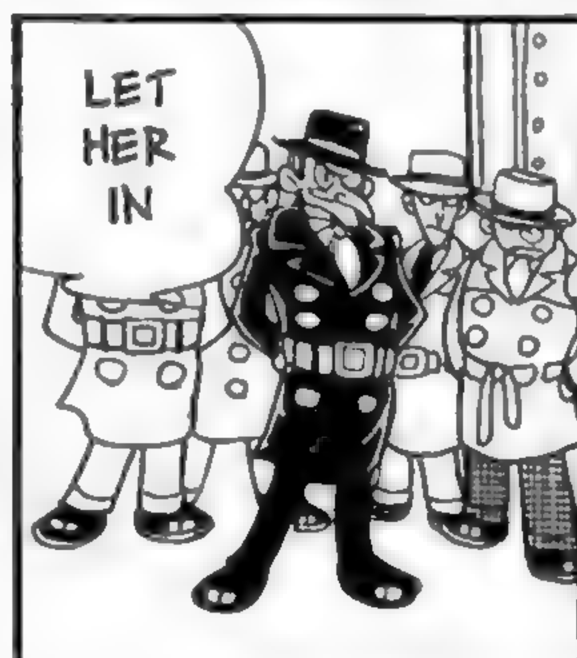
カチッ



IF SHE TRIES ANYTHING FUNNY, WE'LL MAKE HER DISAPPEAR.



YEAH, WE'VE HAD TROUBLE WITH HER IN THE PAST
I'M SUSPICIOUS OF 47.



LET HER IN







カシャッ!















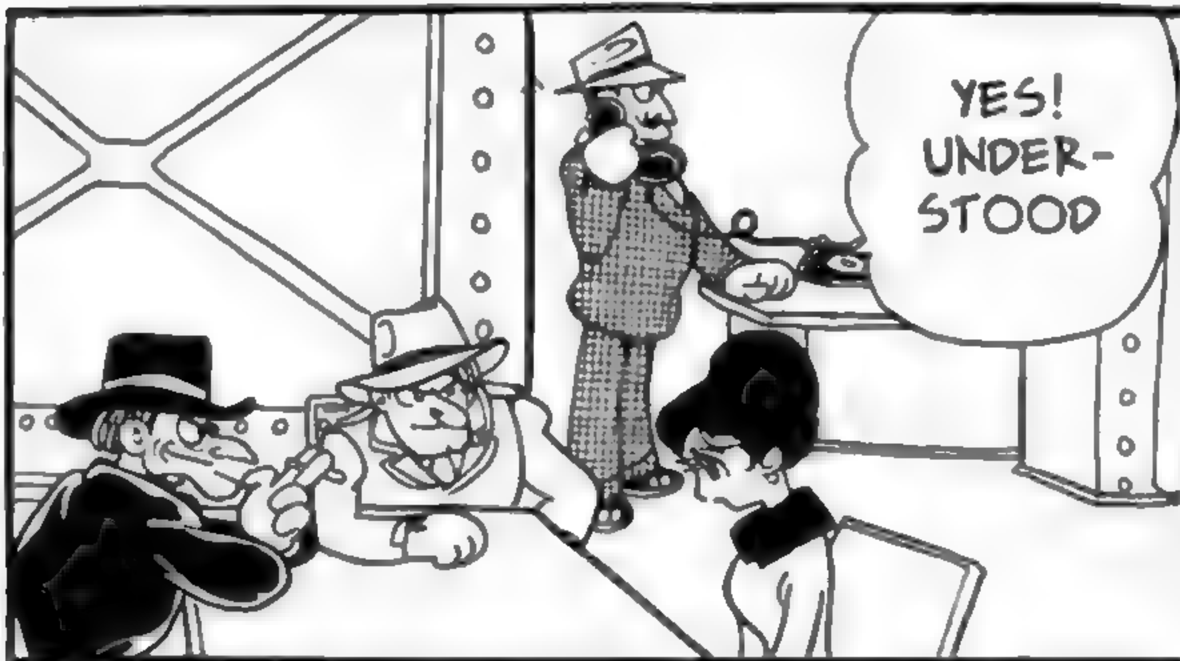




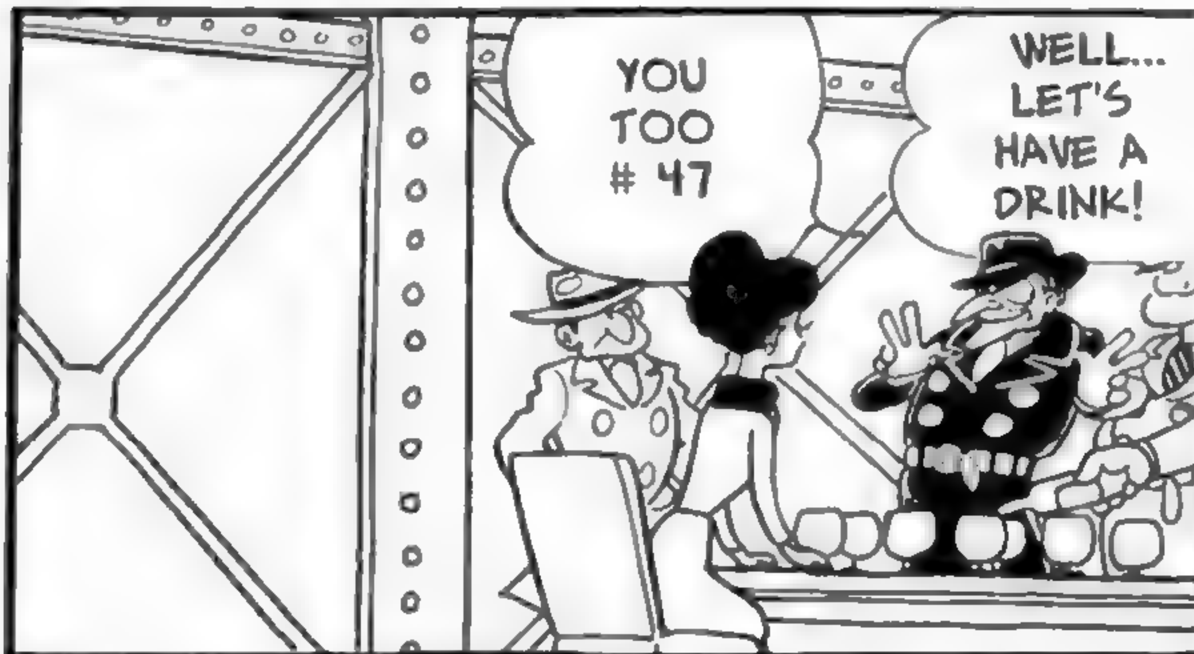


*110 IS THE EMERGENCY NUMBER FOR POLICE IN JAPAN


MY MOM IS IN THERE. I'M GOING IN. BUT PLEASE COME QUICK! AND BE QUIET ABOUT IT!


YES! UNDERSTOOD

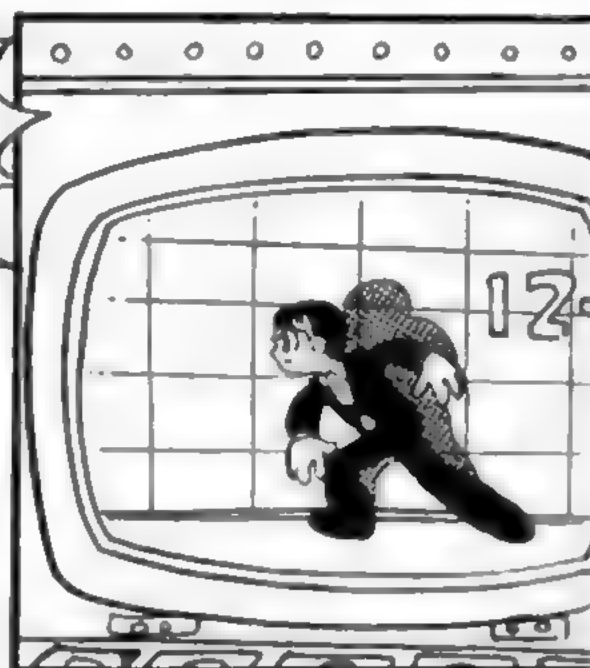

......
......


WELL... LET'S HAVE A DRINK!
YOU TOO # 47


LET'S DRINK TO BIG X
AND TO THE PROSPECT OF THE NAZI ALLIANCE

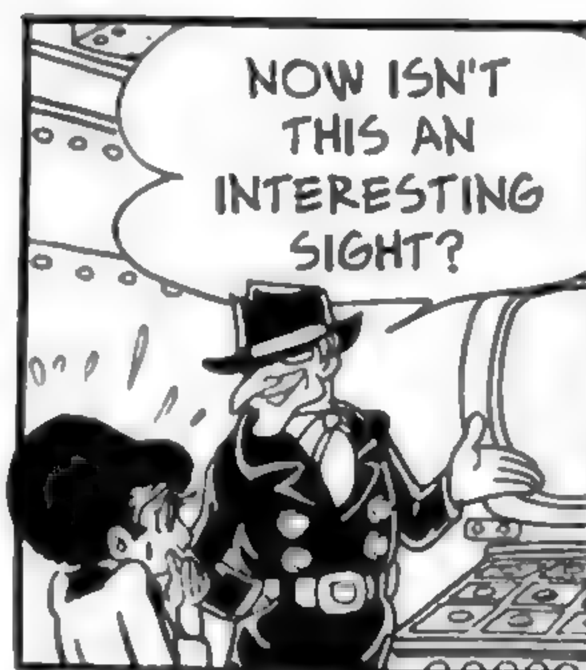

CHEERS
カチリーン


WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE?


12


A...AKIRA!


OH NO!


NOW ISN'T THIS AN INTERESTING SIGHT?


#47 I KNEW YOU WOULD BETRAY US


QUICKLY! GIVE ME THE BIG X PLATE!


VERY WELL, BUT ....
COME ON!!


I'M TAKING IT BACK TO MY HUSBAND
QUICK! GIVE IT!


DO YOU REALIZE WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOUR BOY?


OBVIOUSLY I'M NO LONGER IN YOUR NAZI ALLIANCE

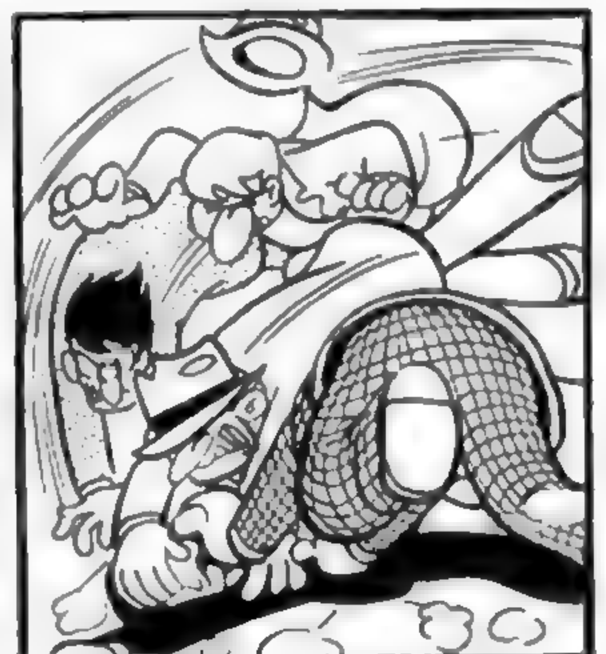

HAI!


GRAB EM!


AW, IS MADAM FEELING A LITTLE SLEEPY?


AKIRA! YOU MUST ESCAPE! RUN AWAY!


HAIYA!

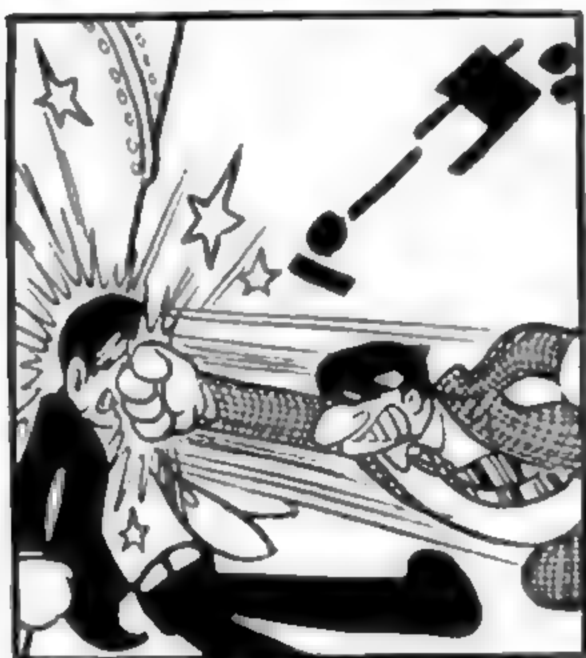



THIS WAS FOOL-ISH!

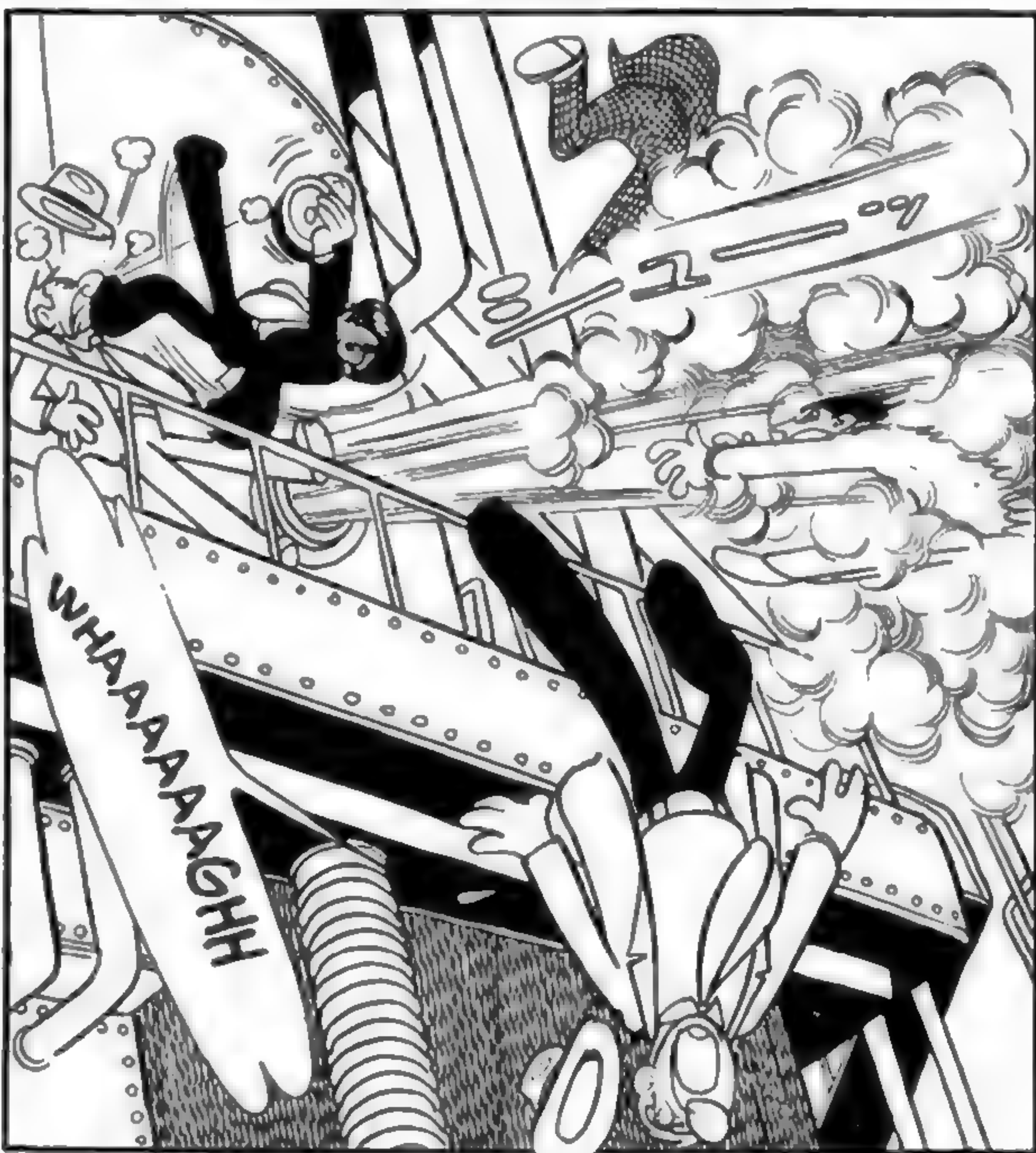




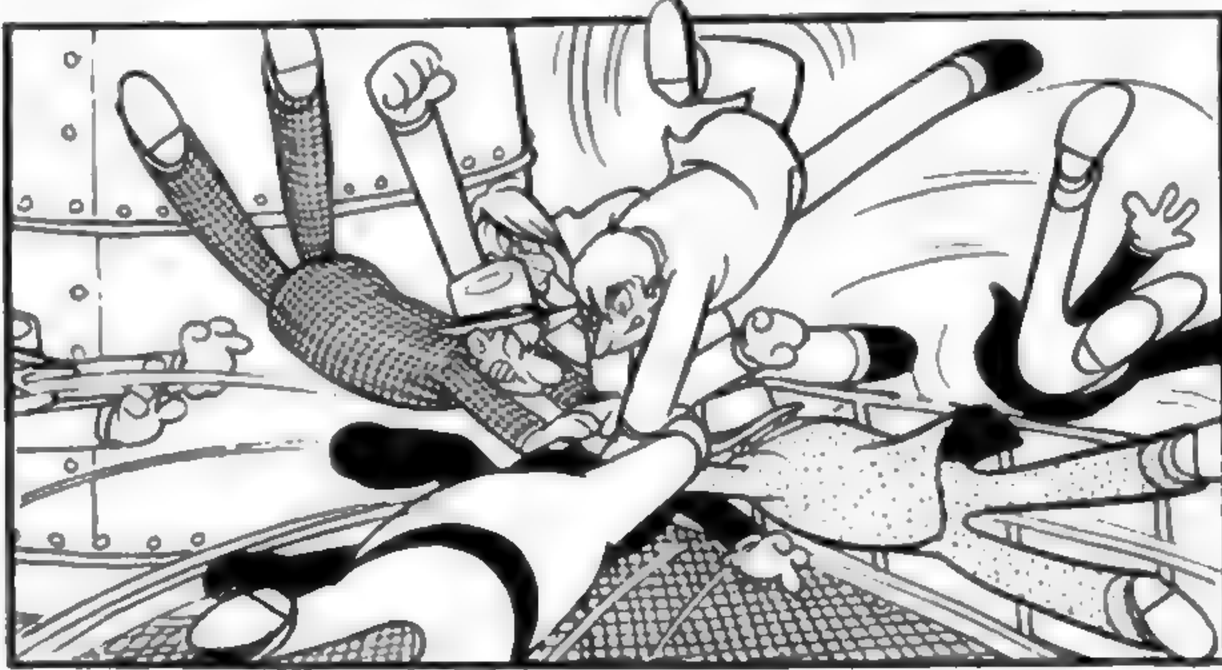

THESE FREAKIN GUYS

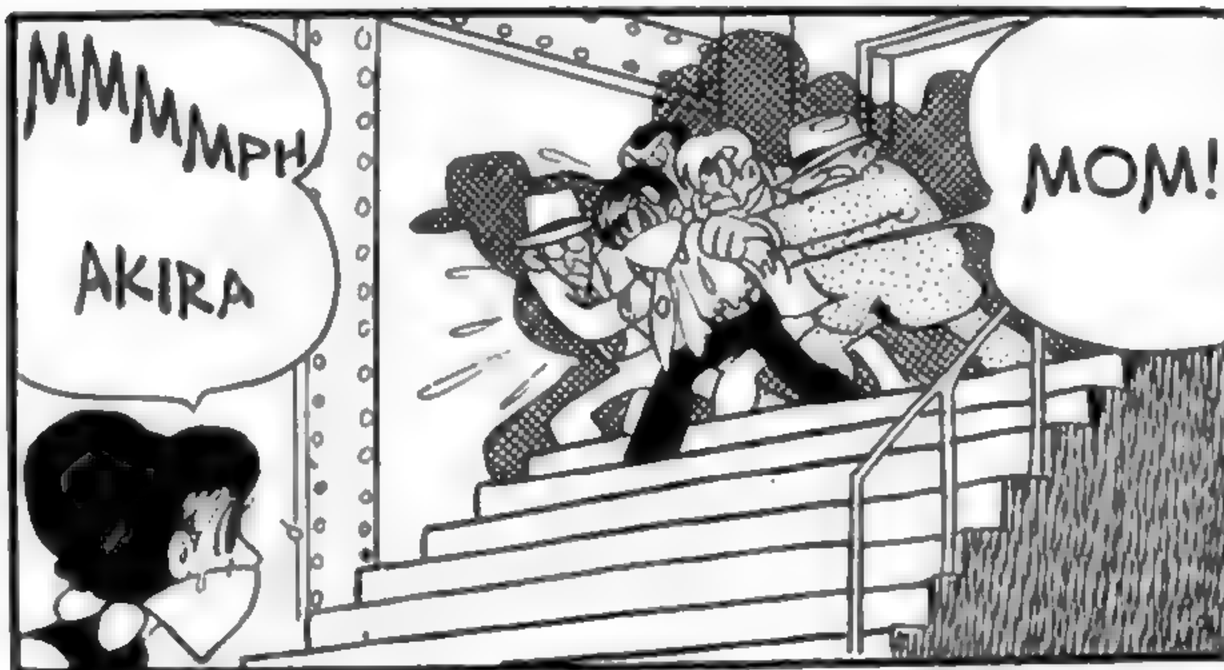



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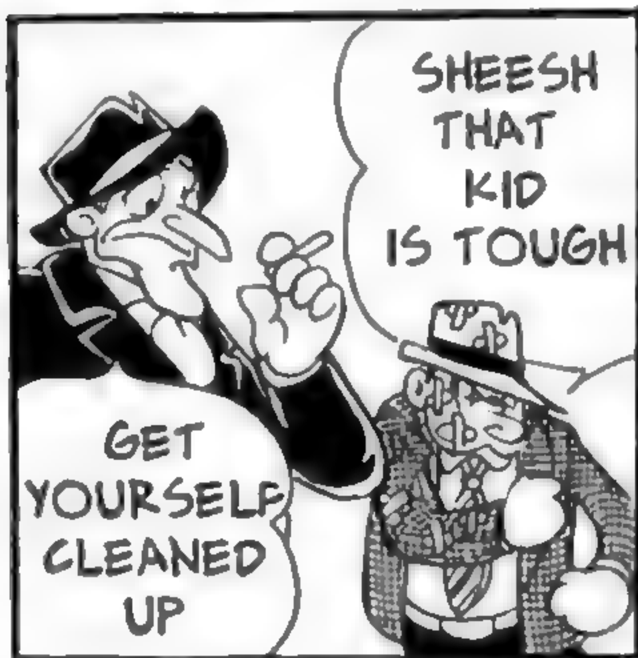

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WHAAAAAAGHH






MMMMMPH
AKIRA
MOM!

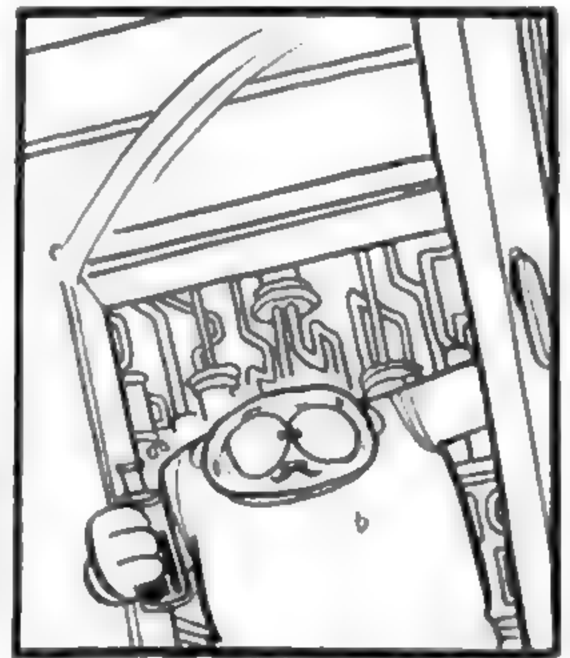

SHIT! THESE DAMN SPIES!


SHEESH THAT KID IS TOUGH
GET YOURSELF CLEANED UP


UGH...



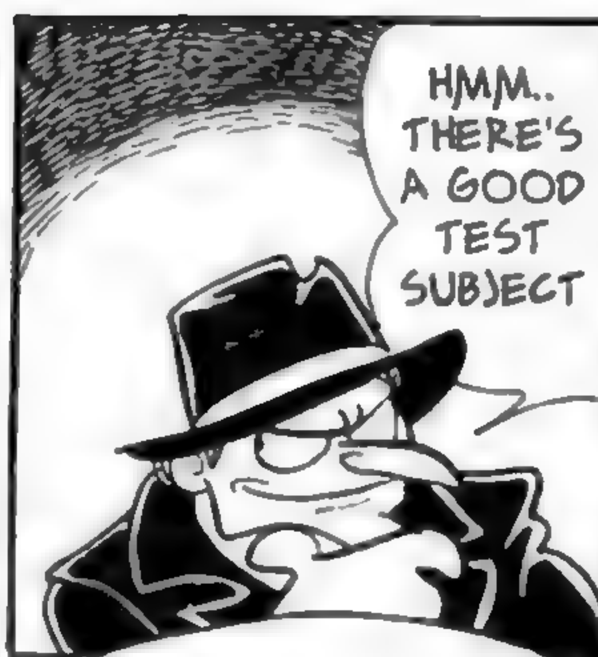




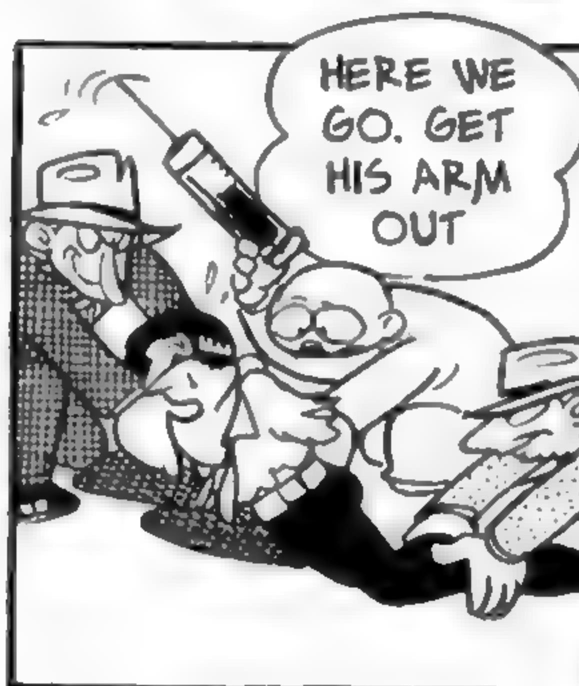

SO THIS IS THE BIG X DRUG
I MADE IT ACCORDING TO THE BIG X MANU-PACTURING METHOD


AH... IT'S DONE!


INJECT IT INTO THIS CHUMP!


HMM.. THERE'S A GOOD TEST SUBJECT


SEEMS DANGEROUS TO INJECT THIS. IT MIGHT BE DEADLY


HERE WE GO. GET HIS ARM OUT


EVEN IF IT HE DOESN'T DIE FROM IT, WE'LL KILL HIM ONCE THE EXPERIMENT IS OVER.


THIS KID IS MORE USEFUL AS A GUINEA PIG ANYWAY.

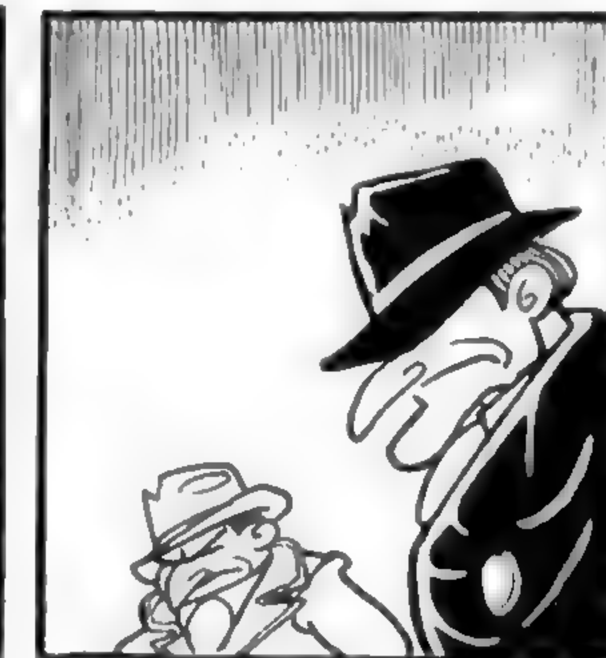



NO! AKIRA!


OOOH..
UUAAAAAHHGG


WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?






HE'S NOT DYING... LOOK AT HIS FACE!
WHA... WHAT THE HELL??

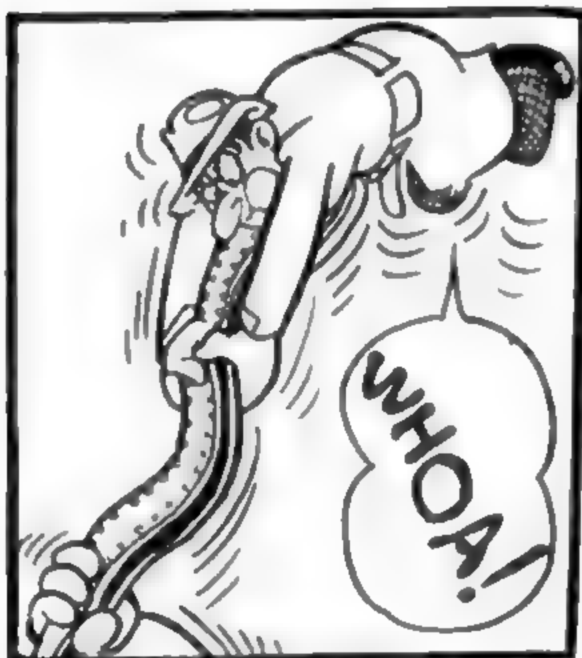


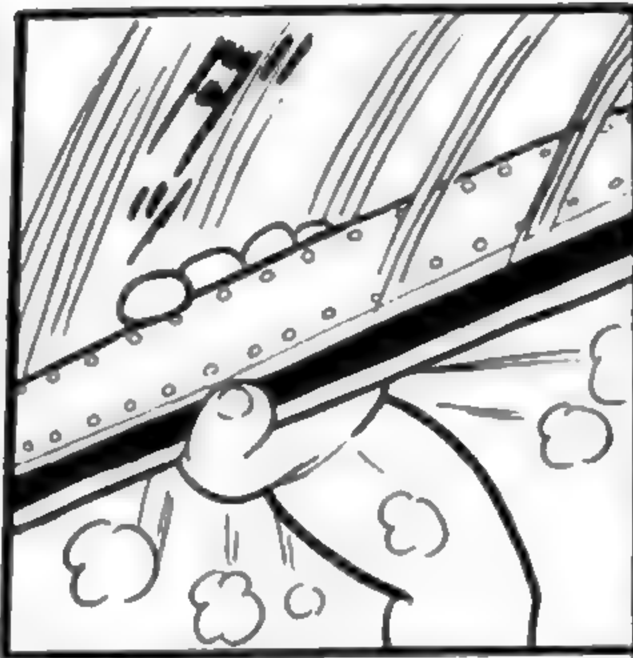

SHOOT! KILL EM!

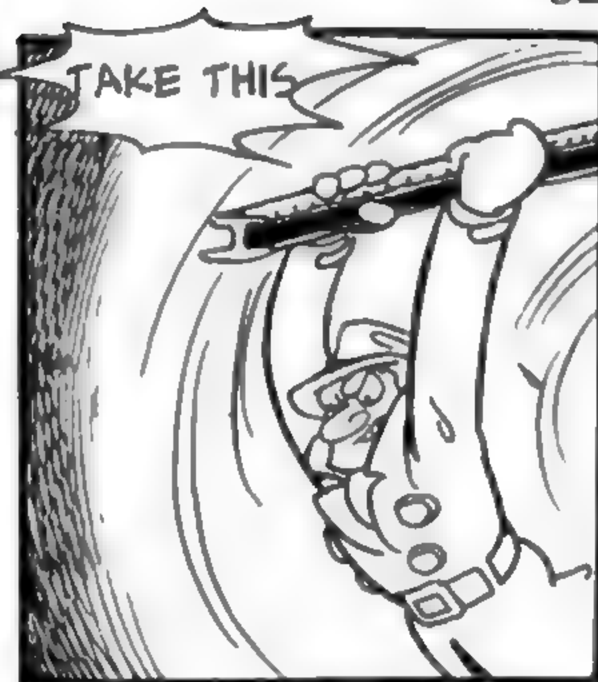

I'M HITTING HIM, BUT ...
HE'S IM-PERVIOUS! IT'S THE DAMN DRUG!



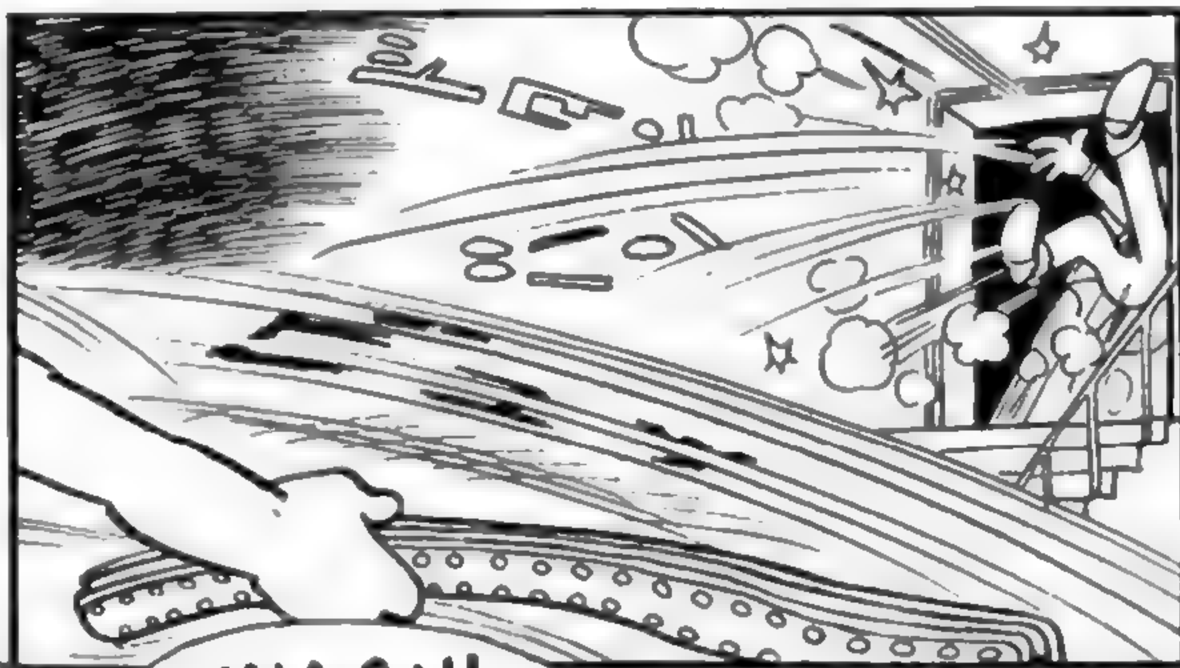

AKIRA!


WHOA!




TAKE THIS

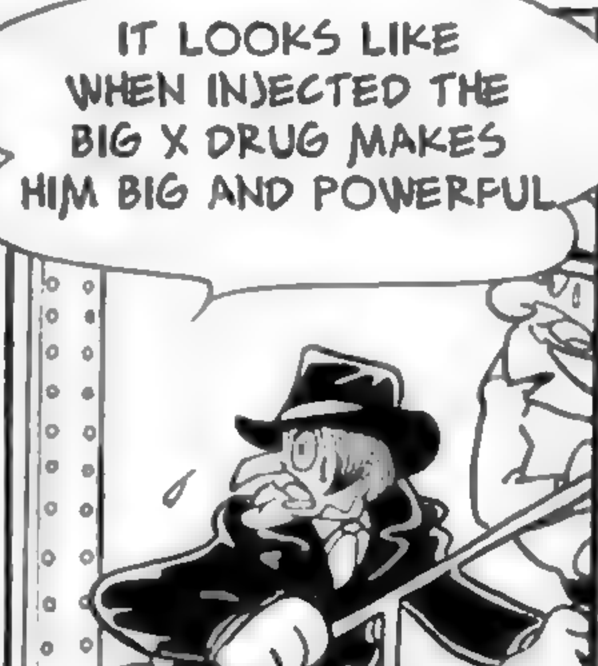


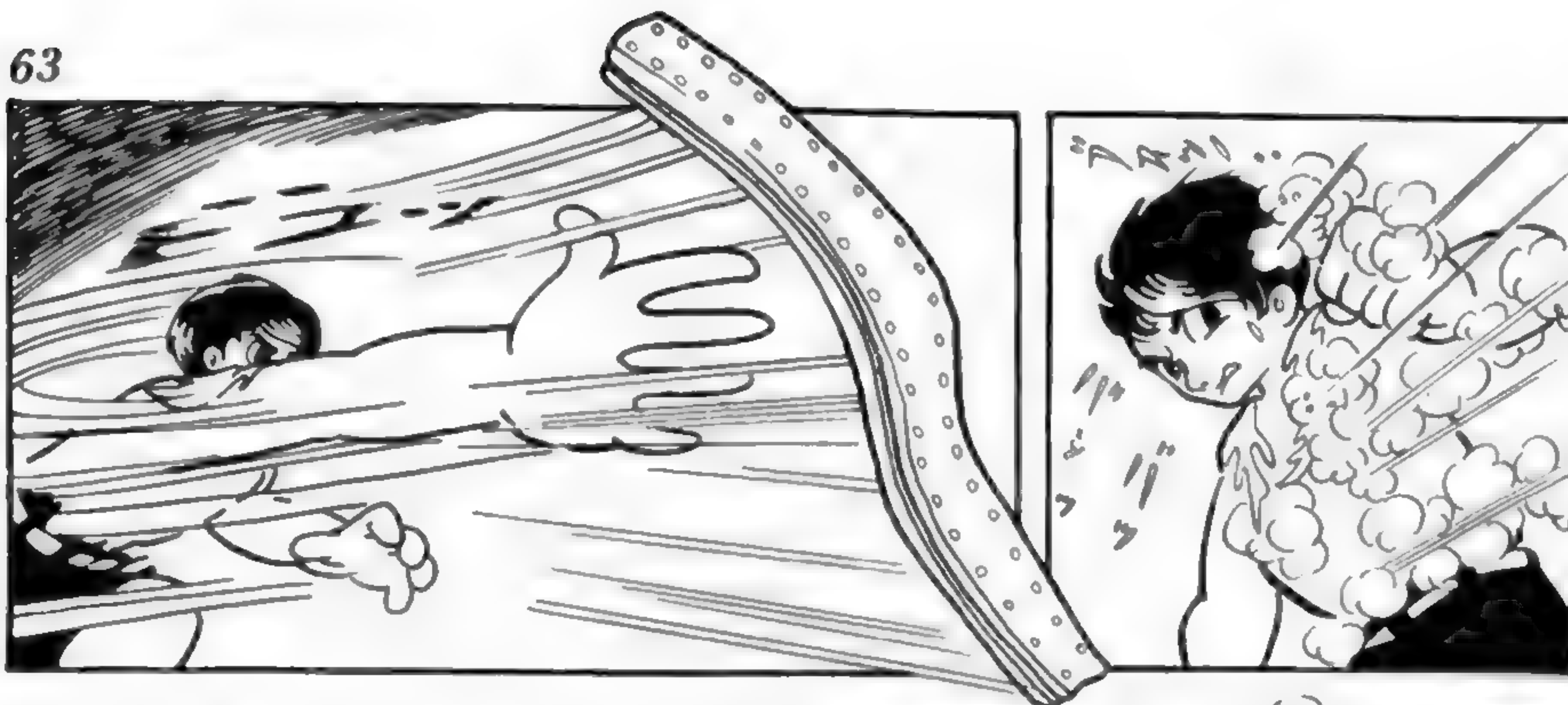


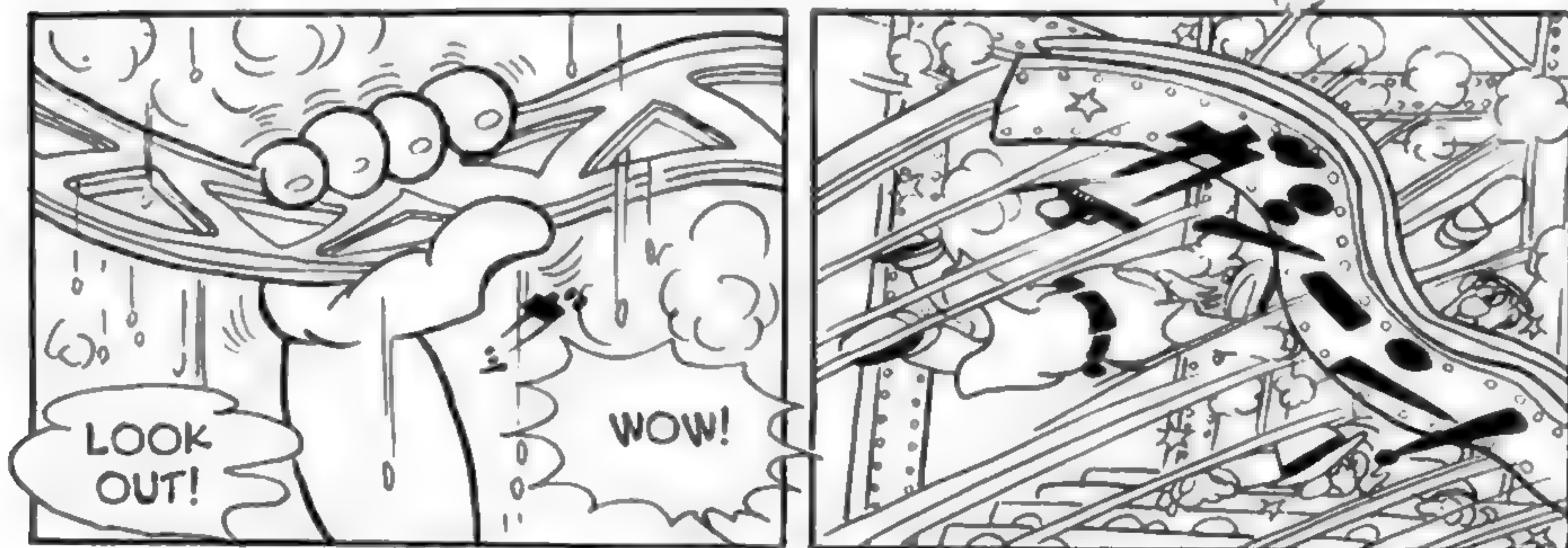

WAGH! WHAT IS THIS CRAP?!
THAT'S TOO MUCH! RUN AWAY!




SHOOT HIM IN THE HEAD!

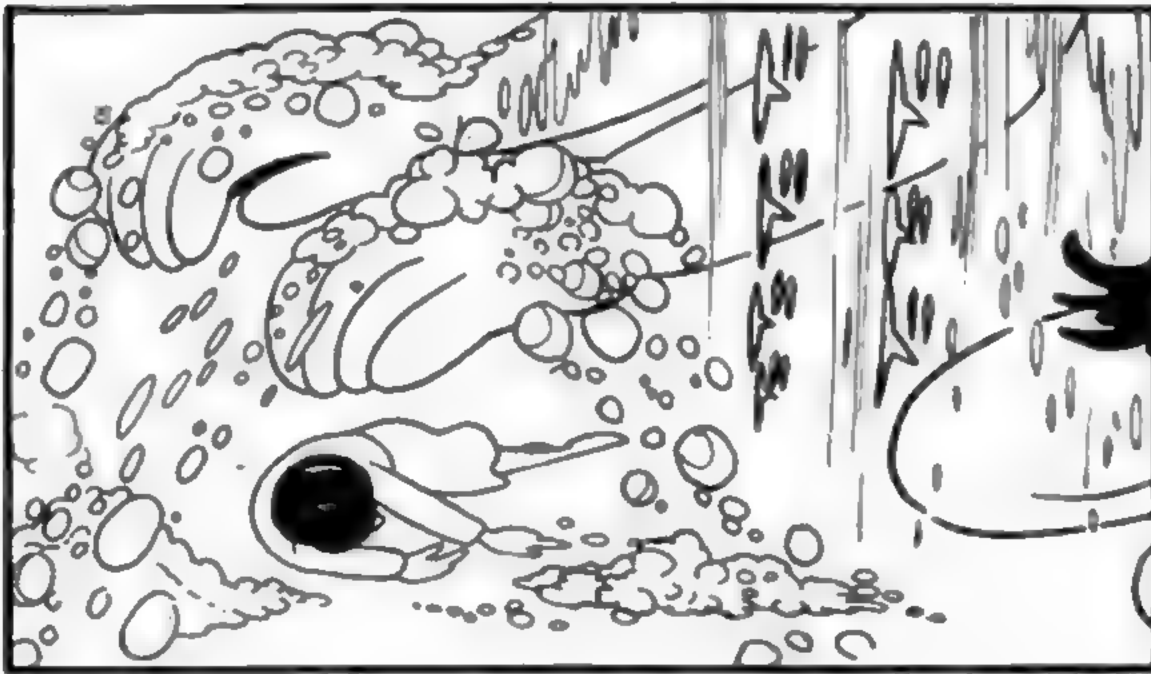

IT LOOKS LIKE WHEN INJECTED THE BIG X DRUG MAKES HIM BIG AND POWERFUL



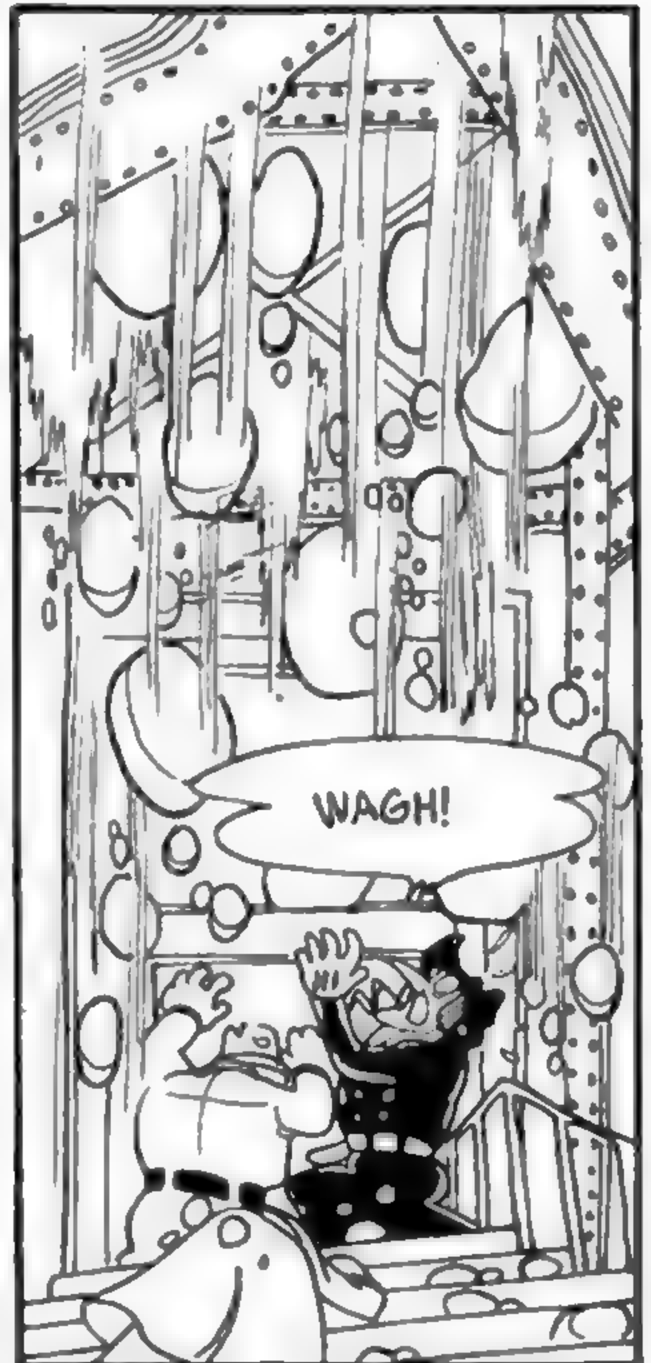

LOOK OUT!
WOW!


HIS SIZE! IT'S AMAZING! HE'S DESTROYED THE HIDEOUT
THE ROOF IS COLLAPSING!





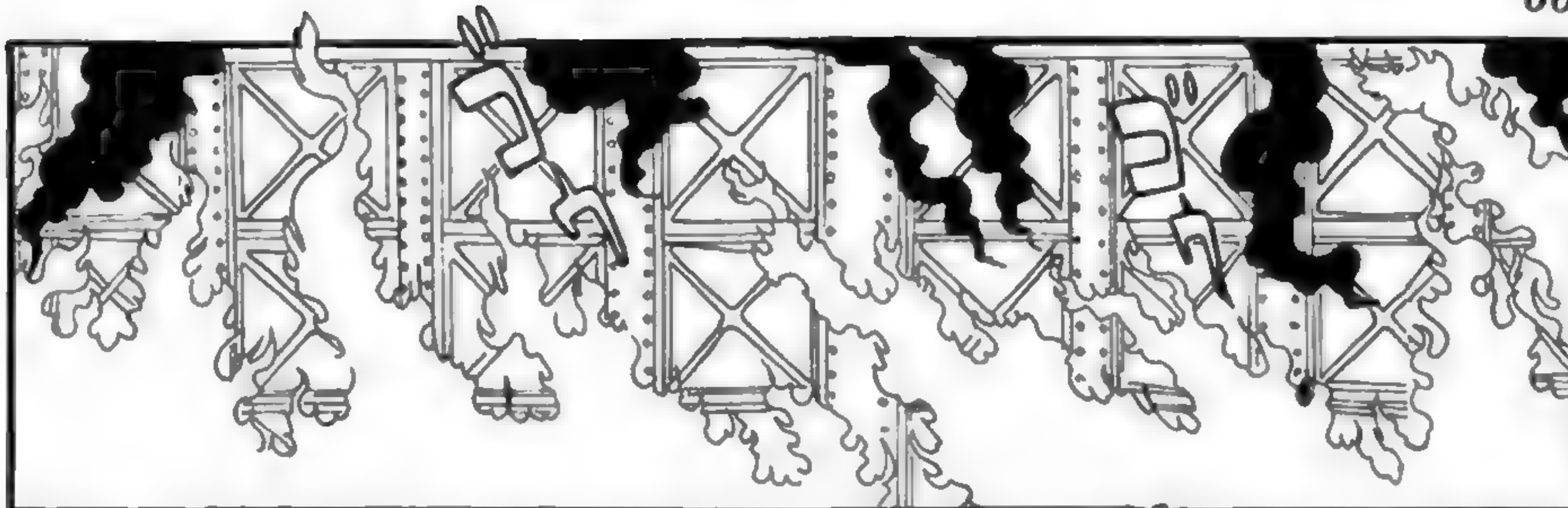

EH?


WAGH!


IF BULLETS DON'T WORK MAYBE FIRE WILL!



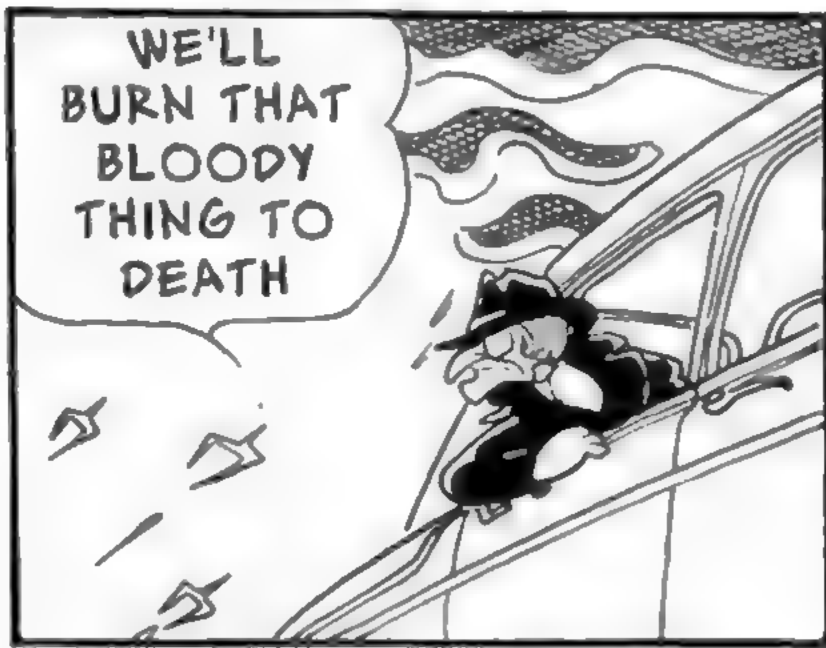

I'LL BLOW HIM UP!

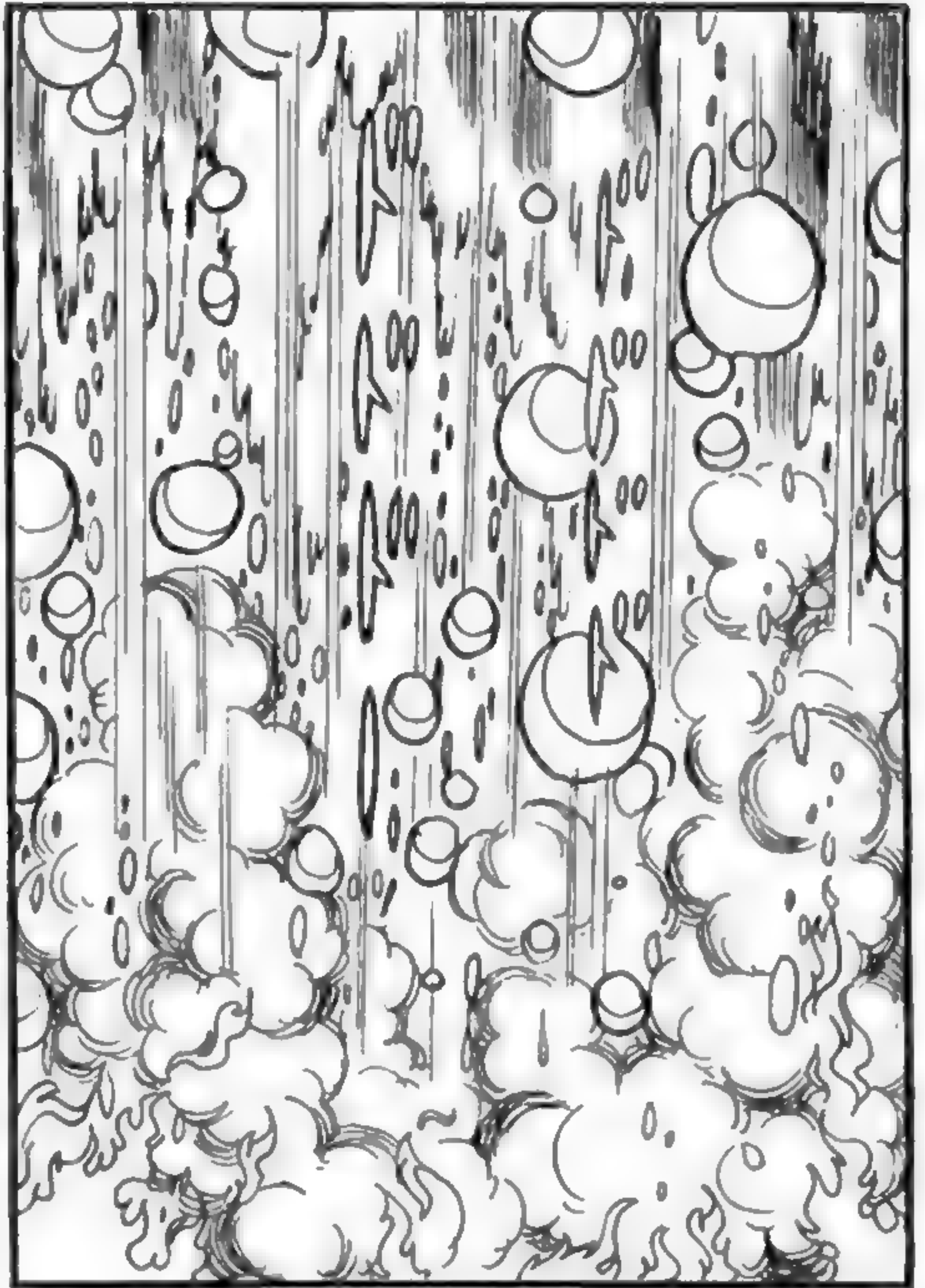



AH!


MOM...
I'VE GOT
YOU



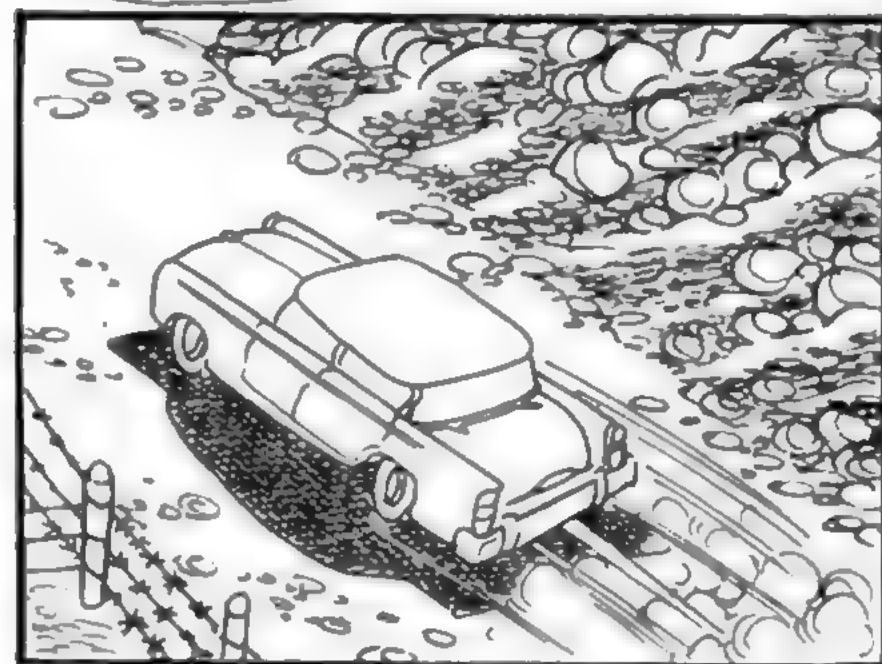

WE'LL BURN THAT BLOODY THING TO DEATH




#37, HOLD ON TIGHT TO THAT CARD.
Y..YESSIR


IT'S ABSOLUTELY SHOCKING HOW MUCH POWER BIG X HAS


THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'LL BE SURPRISED BY WHAT THEY FIND IN THE ASHES




LET'S GET TO THE BACKUP HIDEOUT AND WE'LL START ON THE BIG X FORMULA AGAIN




MY HAT!
YOW!


EEEK!
WHAT IS IT?
?
?


I'M FALLING!
ME TOO


AH! AH!


AAAHH


WHO HAS THE BIG X CARD?


DAMMIT! HE'S GOING TO GET THE CARD!


AHHH!
OUCH!

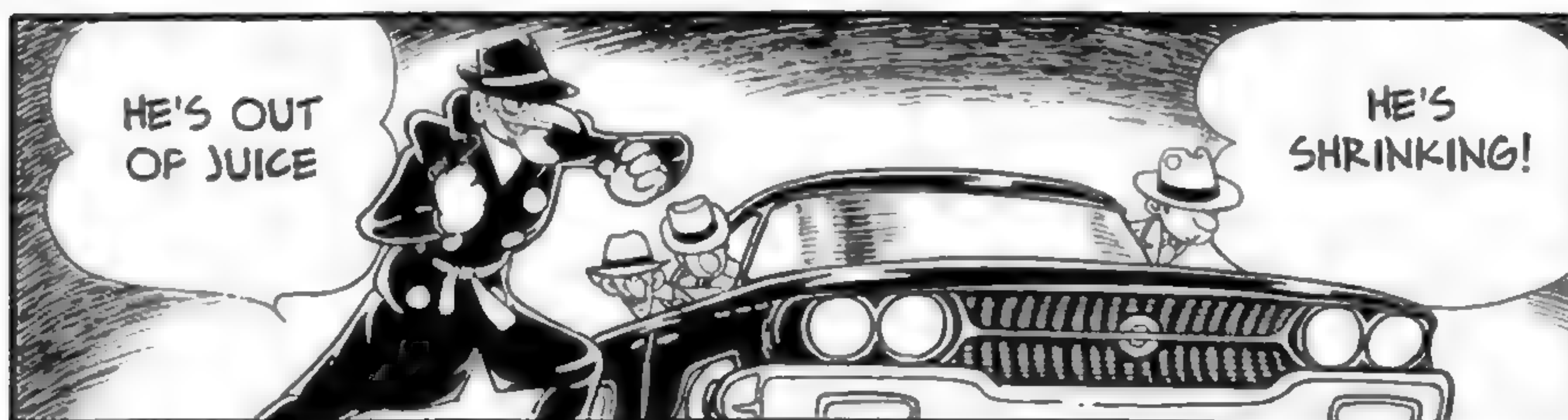

I KNOW YOUR FACE. WHERE IS THE CARD
C-C-C-CARD ... THE C-C-C-CARD IS...


MY BODY... IT'S RETURNING TO ITS ORIGINAL SIZE ...
HUH? ....


H-H-HERE! T-T-TAKE IT!


I DON'T WANNA DIE!


SOMETHING IS HAPPENING TO HIM AGAIN


HE'S OUT OF JUICE
HE'S SHRINKING!


UGH...


WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?

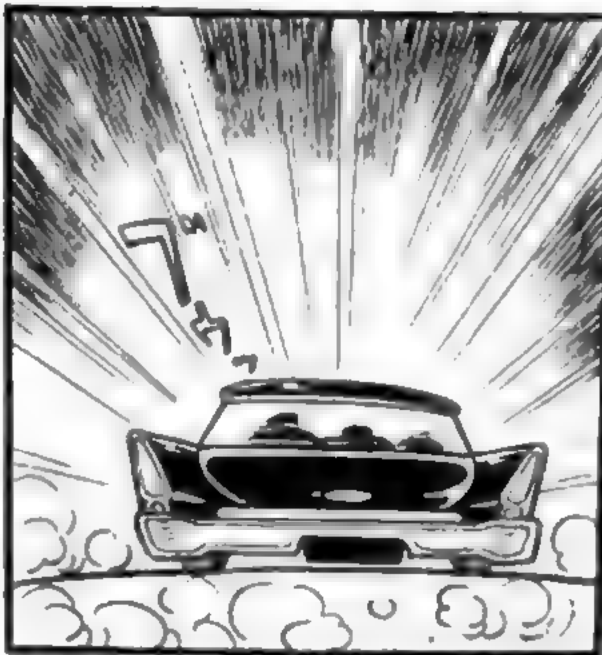



HE'S TURNING BACK INTO HIS OLD SELF. NOW WE CAN SHOOT EM!

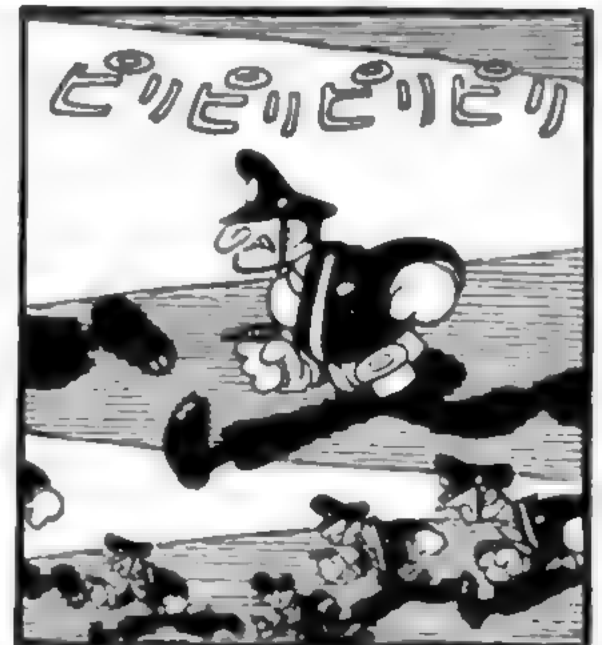

IT HURTS ....


SHIT!
IT'S THE
POLICE!

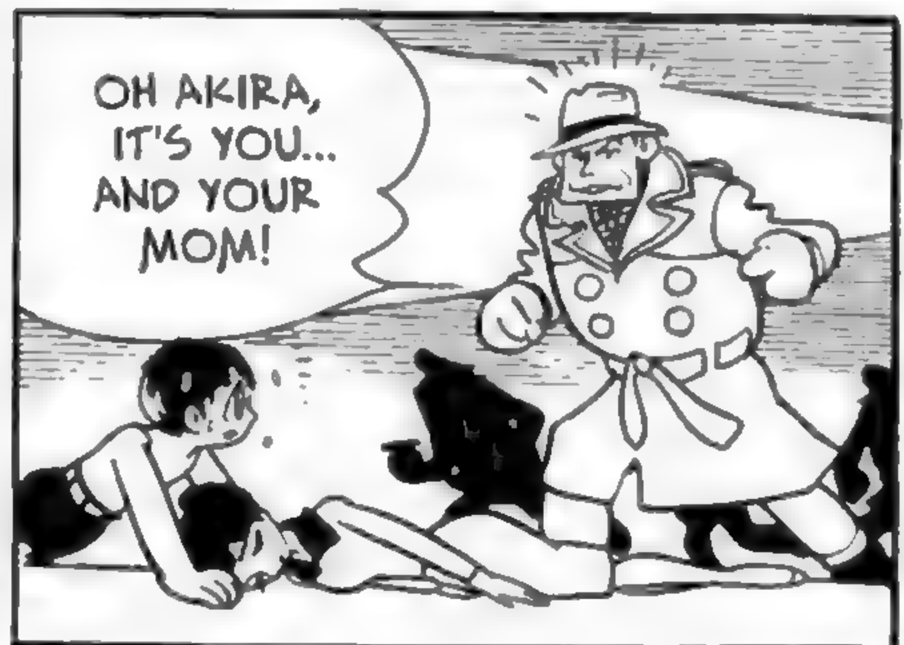





IT'S A PITY WE HAVE TO SCRAM! BUT WE'LL GET THAT CARD BACK FROM YOU ONE DAY!

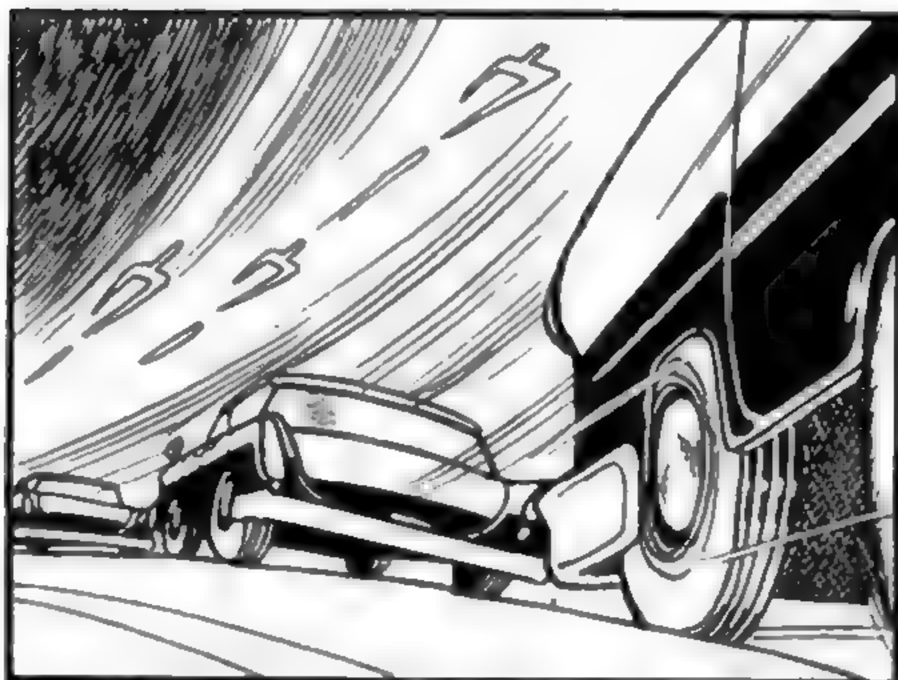

ピリピリピリピリ


YOUR DAD WAS WORRIED
YOU AND YOUR MOM HADN'T ARRIVED HOME SO I TRACKED DOWN YOUR TAXI AND HE BROUGHT US HERE.

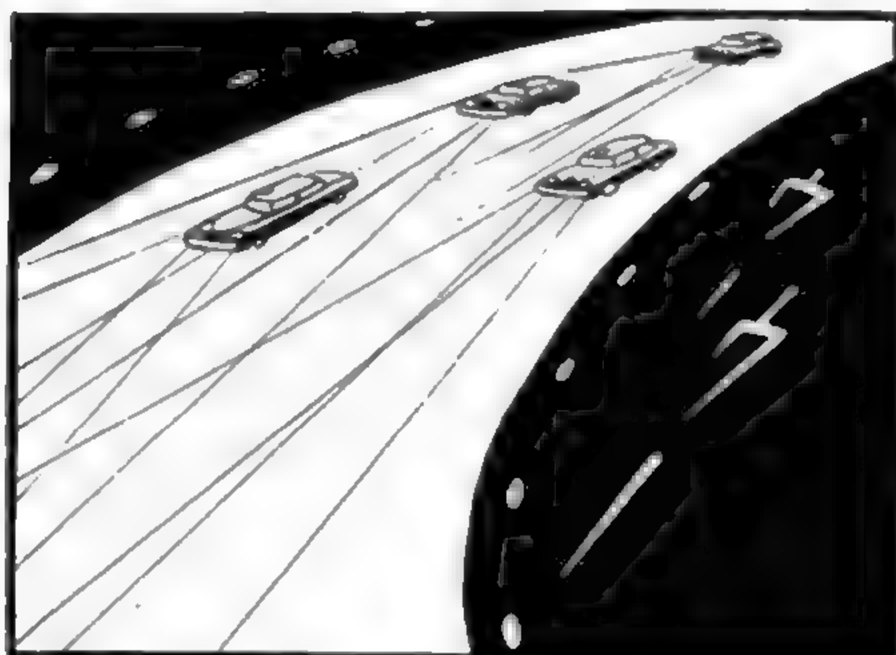

OH AKIRA, IT'S YOU... AND YOUR MOM!

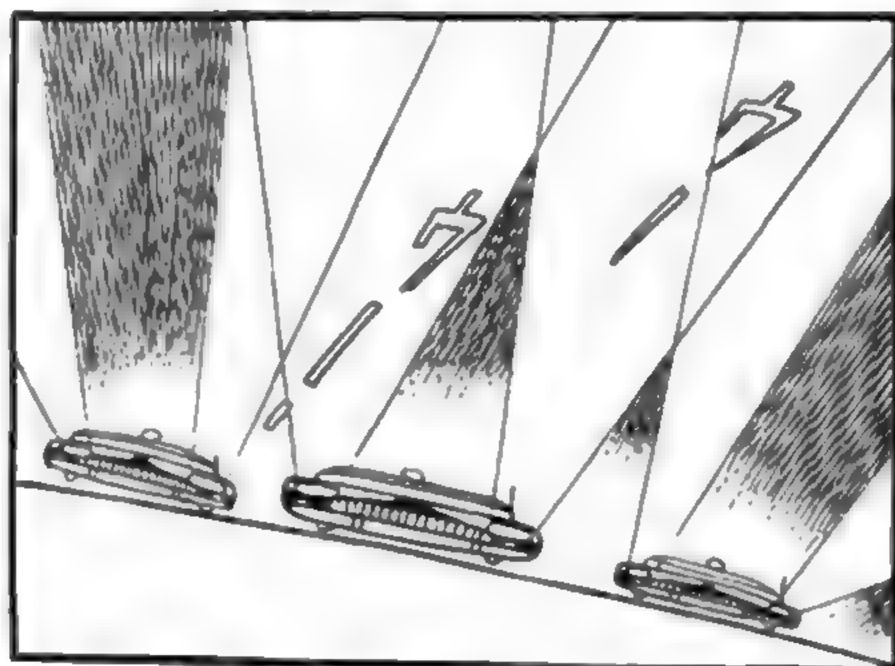

NOW... WHO WERE THOSE GUYS?
THEY'RE SPIES


AKIRA! YOU'RE SAFE ...
OH... MOTHER!

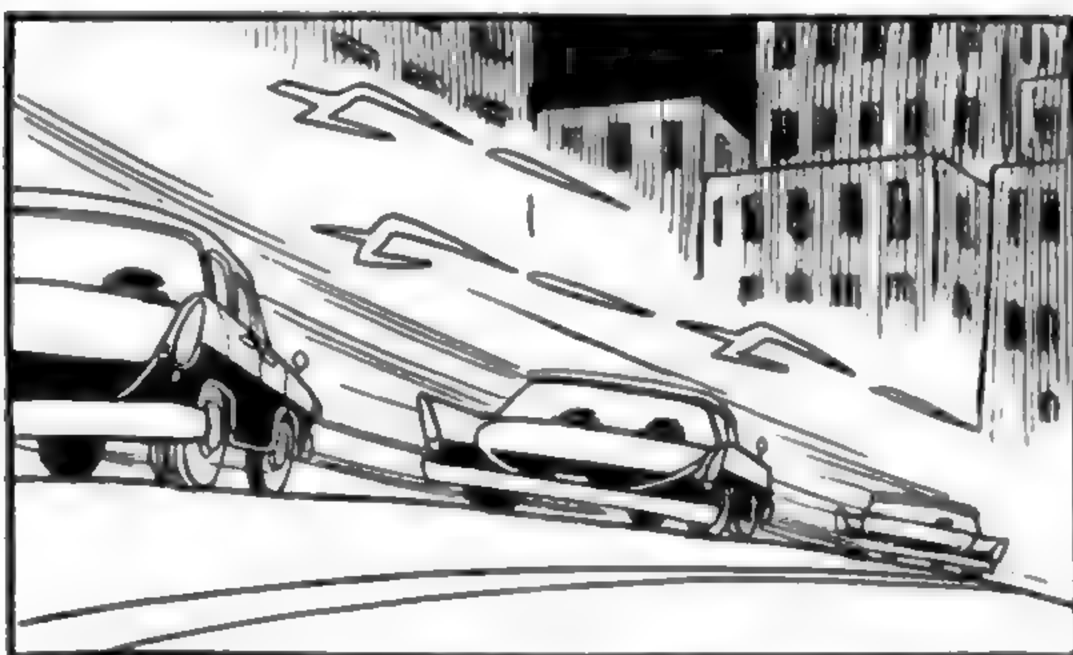



THERE'S A BANDIT DRIVING A STOLEN CAR ON HIGHWAY #2, PLEASE PUT A BOLO OUT ON IT.
ROGER THAT!



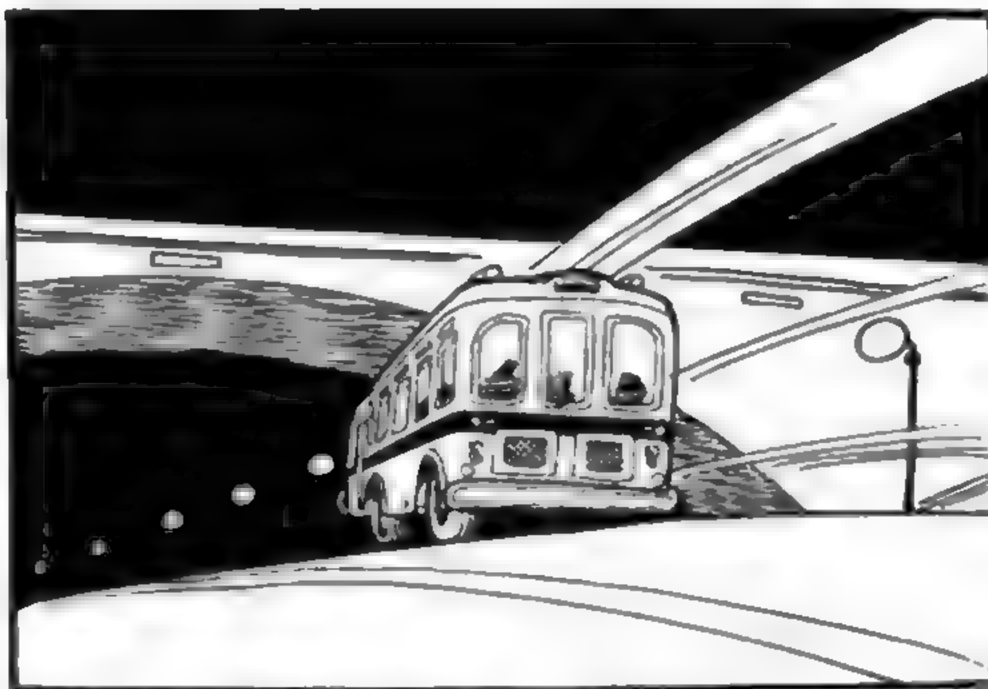


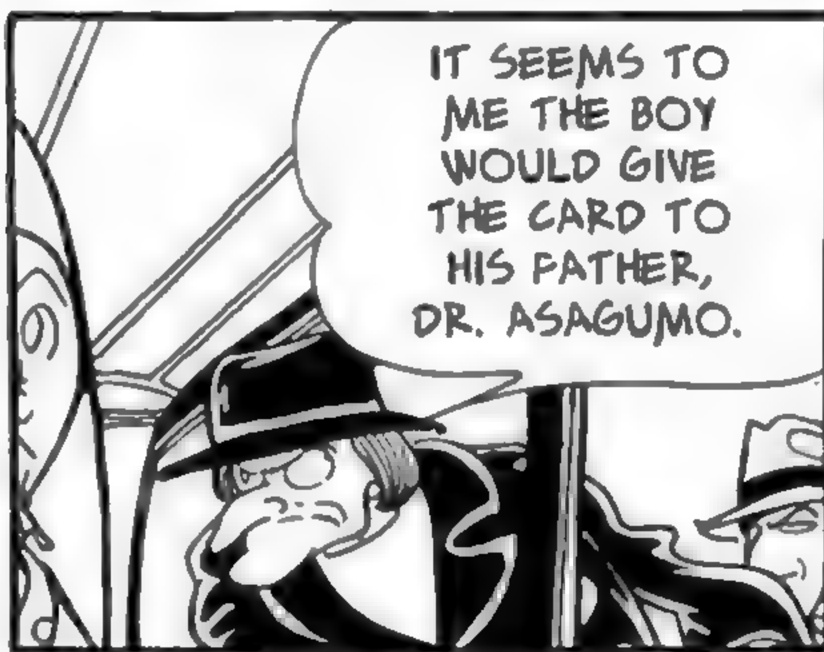

THERE'S A SIGHT-SEEING BUS, BUT WE DON'T SEE THE CAR.




IT MAY HAVE GONE OFF THE MAIN ROUTE. KEEP CHECKING THE MAIN INTERSECTIONS

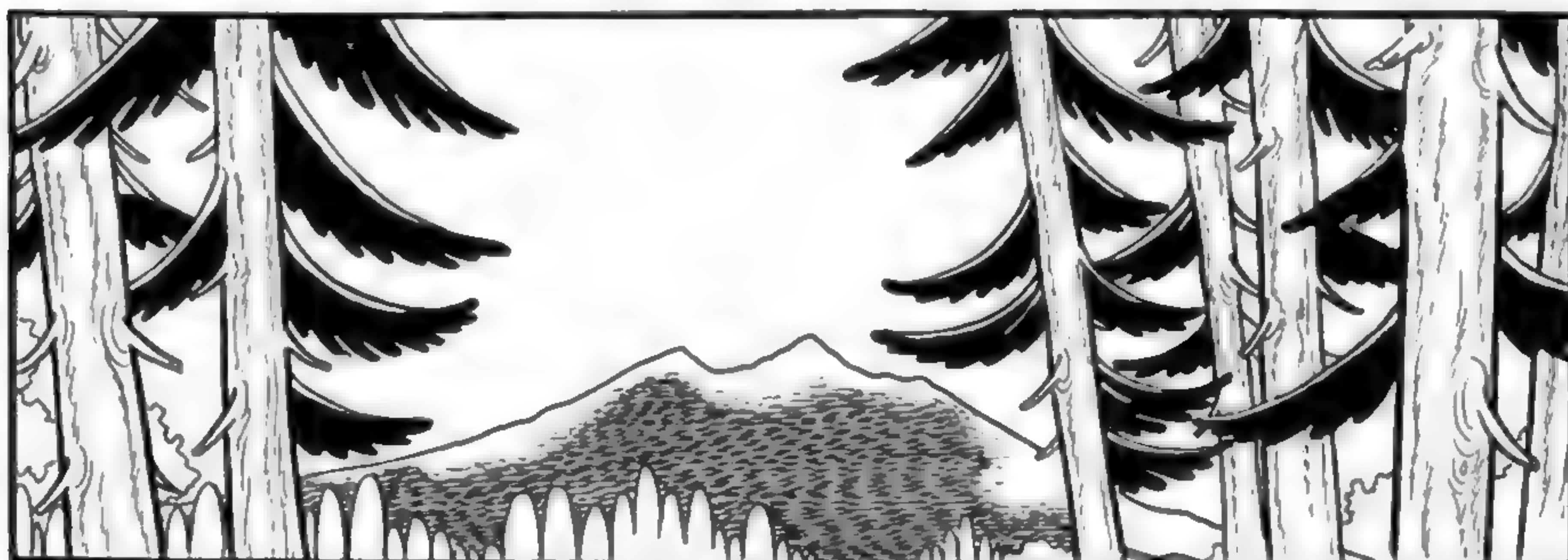




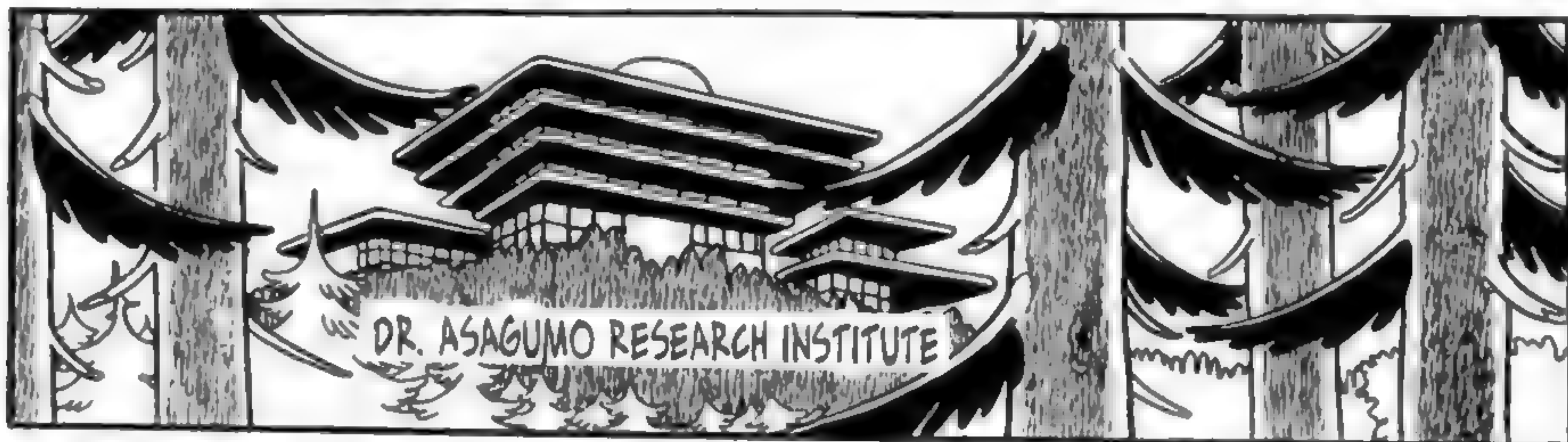

IT SEEMS TO ME THE BOY WOULD GIVE THE CARD TO HIS FATHER, DR. ASAGUMO.


THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL
WE MUST GET THE BIG X CARD BACK NO MATTER WHAT

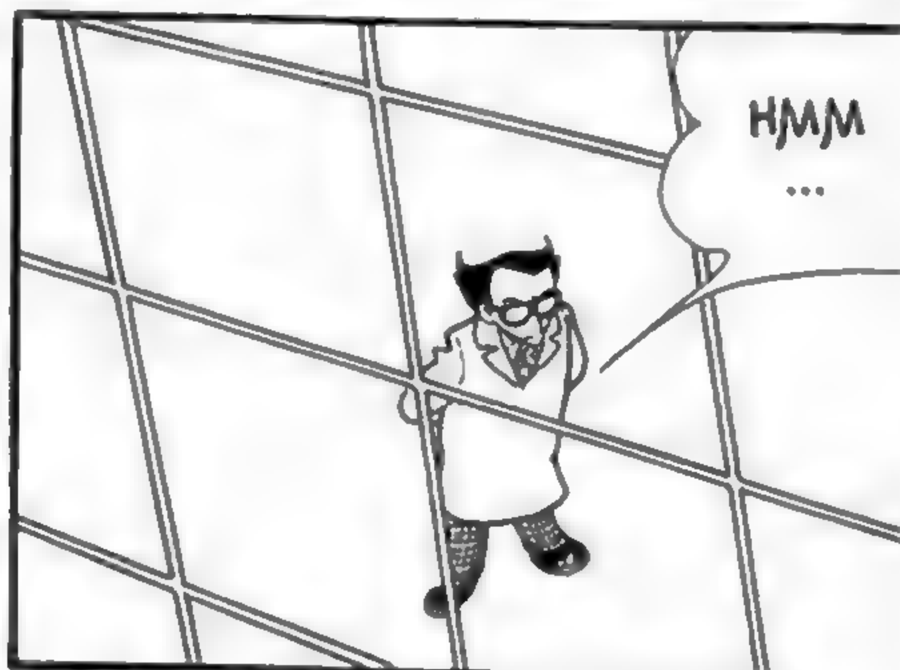

GOTCHA, SO WHERE WE HEADING?
DR. ASAGUMO'S LAB!



CHAPTER 2
THE GIANT RAT


DR. ASAGUMO RESEARCH INSTITUTE


YOU GOT BIGGER AFTER TAKING THE MEDICATION?
IT'S VERY STRANGE ...

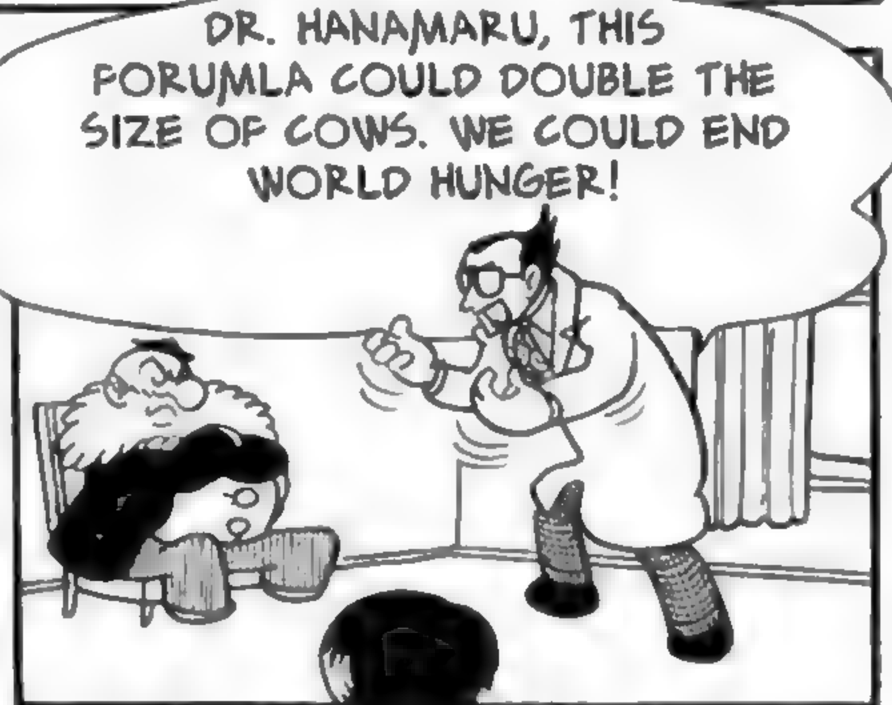

HMM ...

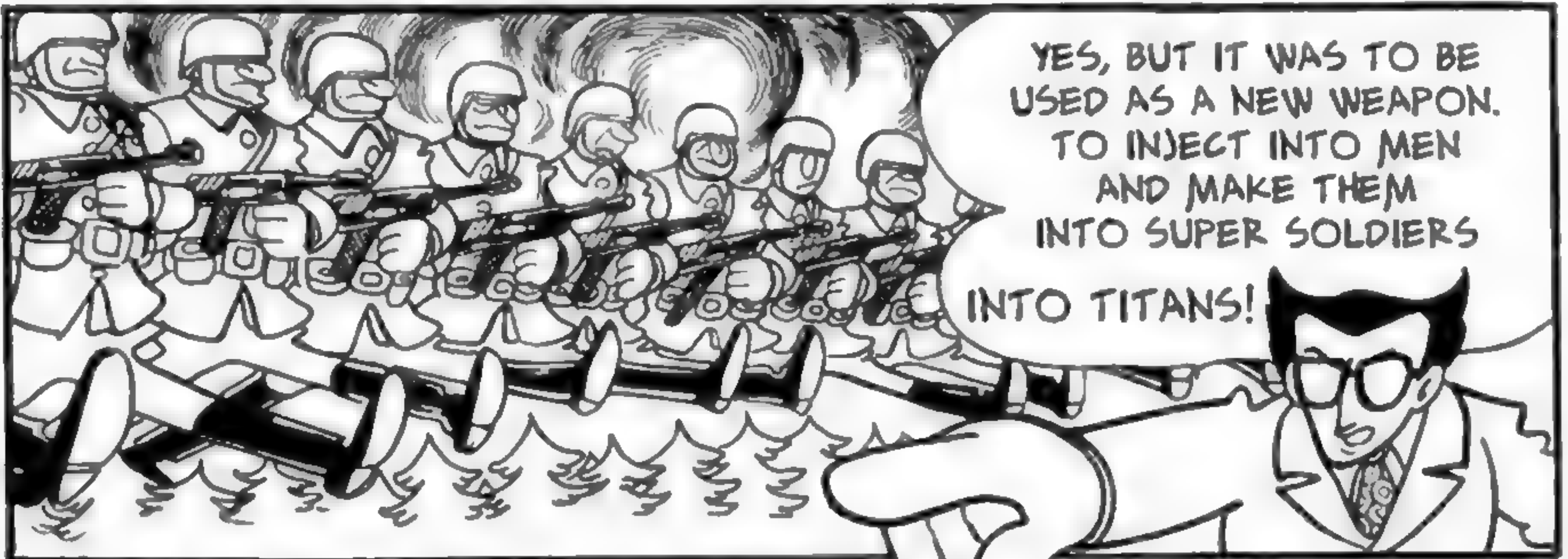

THAT'S FAN-TASTIC!


SO THAT IS THE POWER OF BIG X

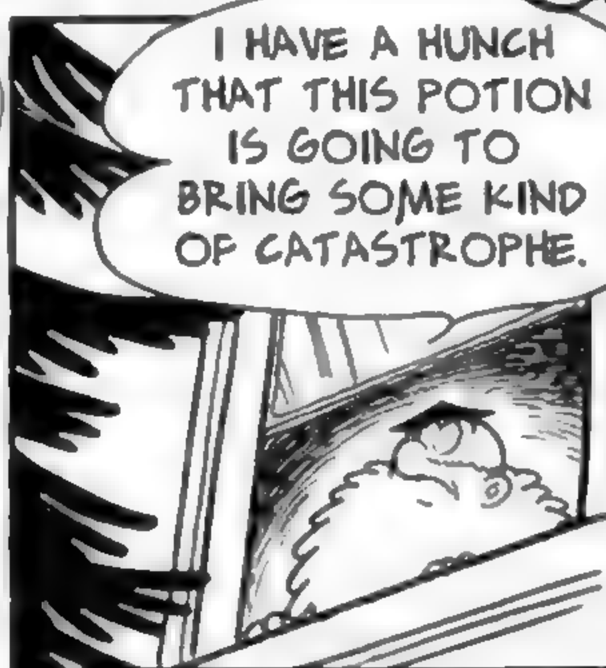

YEAH.. AT THE TIME I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS HAPPENING.


BUT ISN'T THAT WHAT THE NAZIS CREATED BIG X FOR IN THE FIRST PLACE?


DR. HANAMARU, THIS FORUMLA COULD DOUBLE THE SIZE OF COWS. WE COULD END WORLD HUNGER!


YES, BUT IT WAS TO BE USED AS A NEW WEAPON. TO INJECT INTO MEN AND MAKE THEM INTO SUPER SOLDIERS
INTO TITANS!

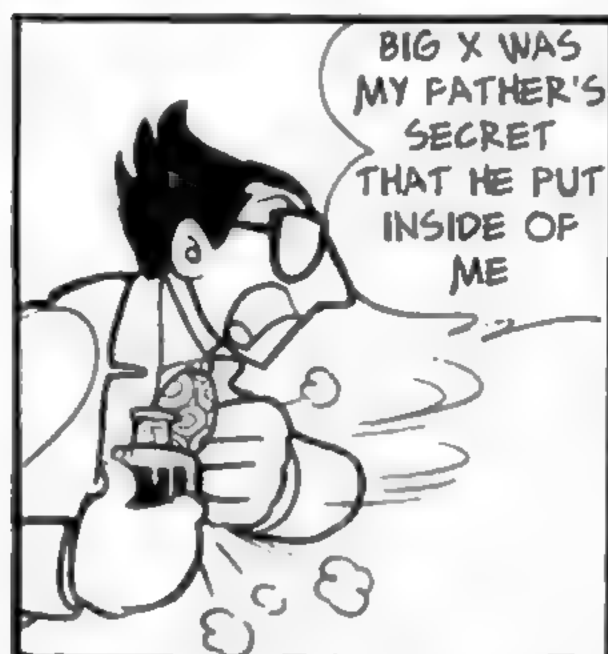

HMM THERE'S ONLY US THREE HERE...


I HAVE A HUNCH THAT THIS POTION IS GOING TO BRING SOME KIND OF CATASTROPHE.


THAT IS WHY IT'S SO TERRIFYING


WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO?
BIG X IS OURS


ARE YOU SURE WE ARE THE ONLY THREE PEOPLE WHO KNOW ABOUT BIG X?
WE CAN'T LET THE SECRET OUT


BIG X WAS MY FATHER'S SECRET THAT HE PUT INSIDE OF ME


WHAT THE HELL?


I'VE USED THE CARD'S FORMULA TO MAKE BIG X!


PLEASE WAIT!
THAT'S DANGEROUS! WE DON'T KNOW WHAT COULD HAPPEN!


I'M GOING TO STUDY ITS EFFECTS ....

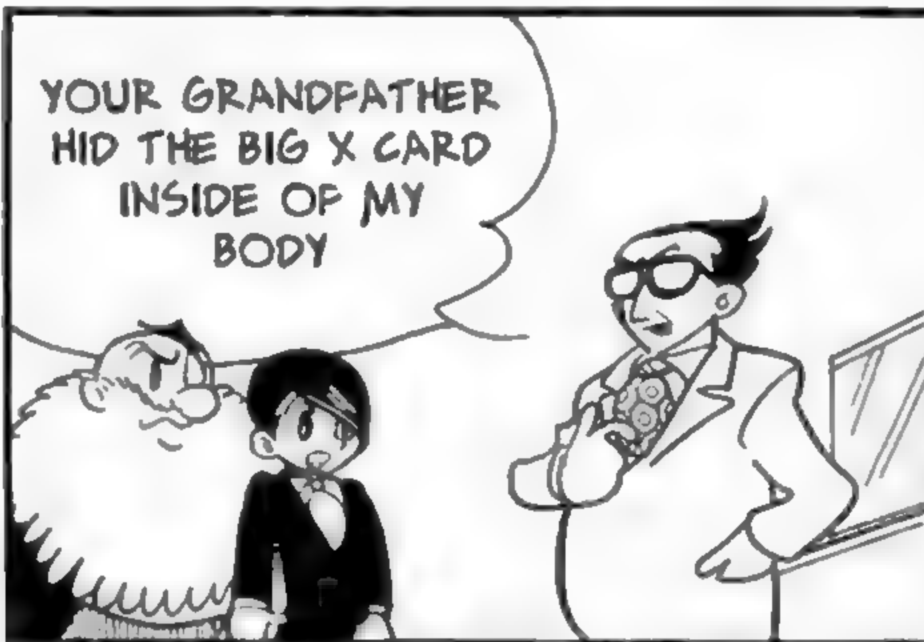

WE CAN'T UNDERSTAND THE NATURE OF THIS FORMULA WITHOUT EXPERIMENTING

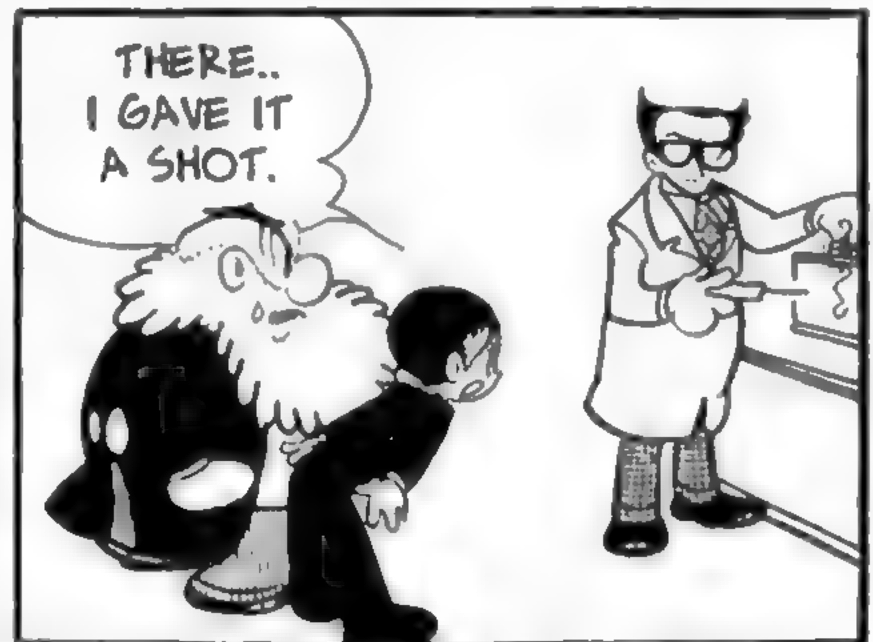

I'M DOING IT!





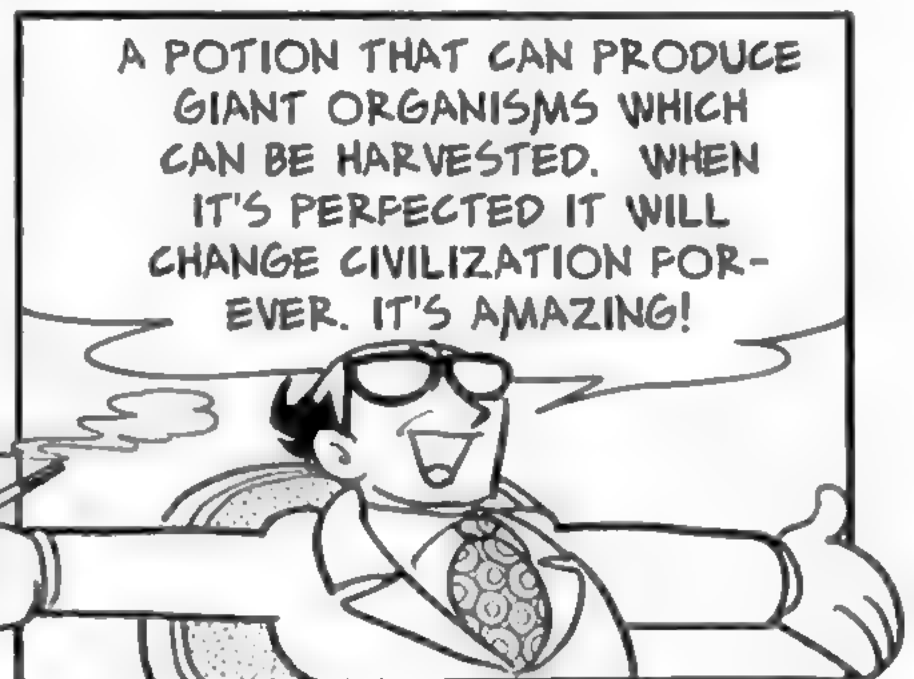

I'LL TRY IT ON A RAT AND A TULIP. THERE'S NO DANGER


YOUR GRANDFATHER HID THE BIG X CARD INSIDE OF MY BODY


THERE.. I GAVE IT A SHOT.

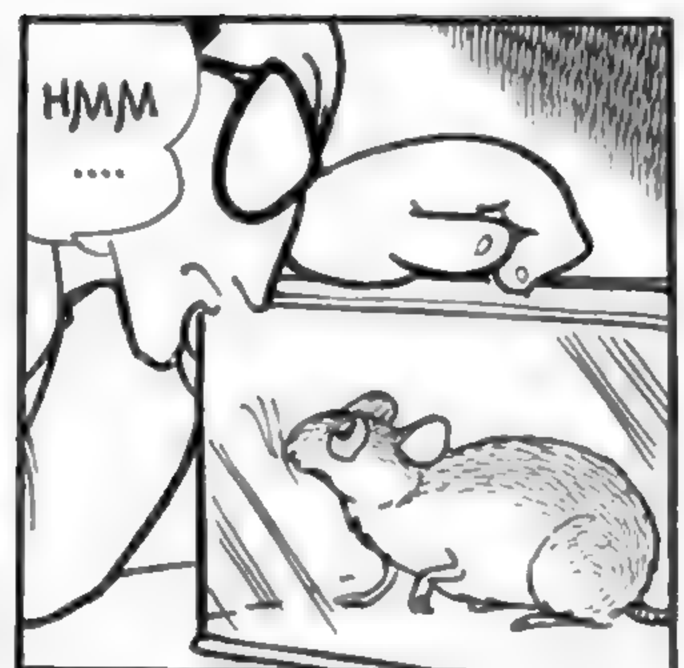

DOCTOR! LOOK AT THIS!

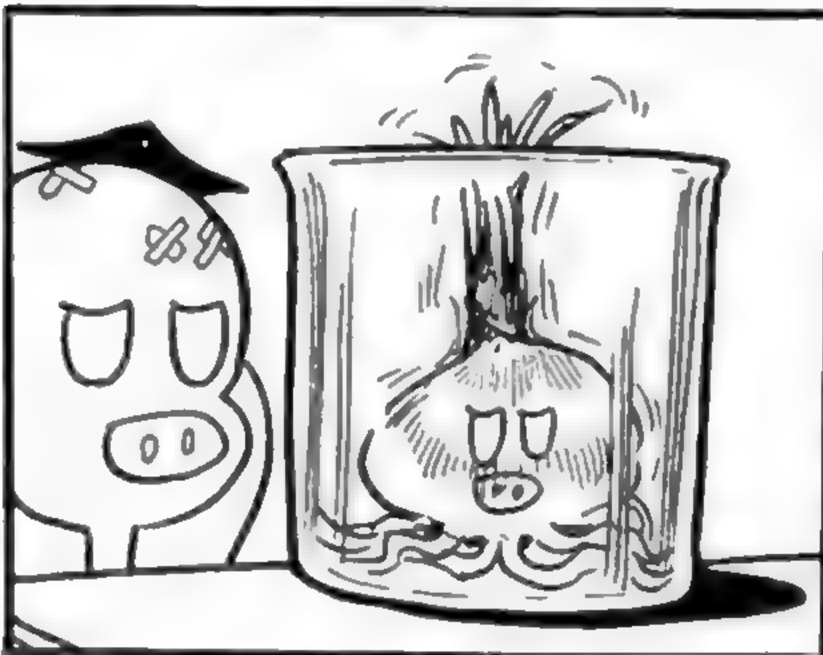

BIG X'S RESEARCH CONTINUES. I'M SORRY IF THAT BOTHERS YOU AKIRA...

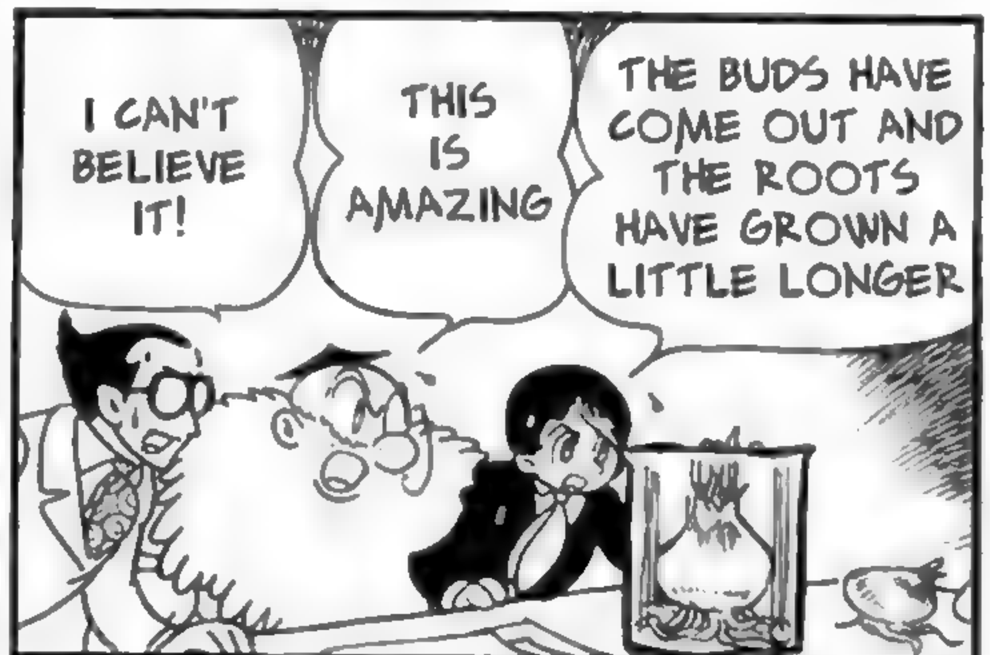

A POTION THAT CAN PRODUCE GIANT ORGANISMS WHICH CAN BE HARVESTED. WHEN IT'S PERFECTED IT WILL CHANGE CIVILIZATION FOR-EVER. IT'S AMAZING!

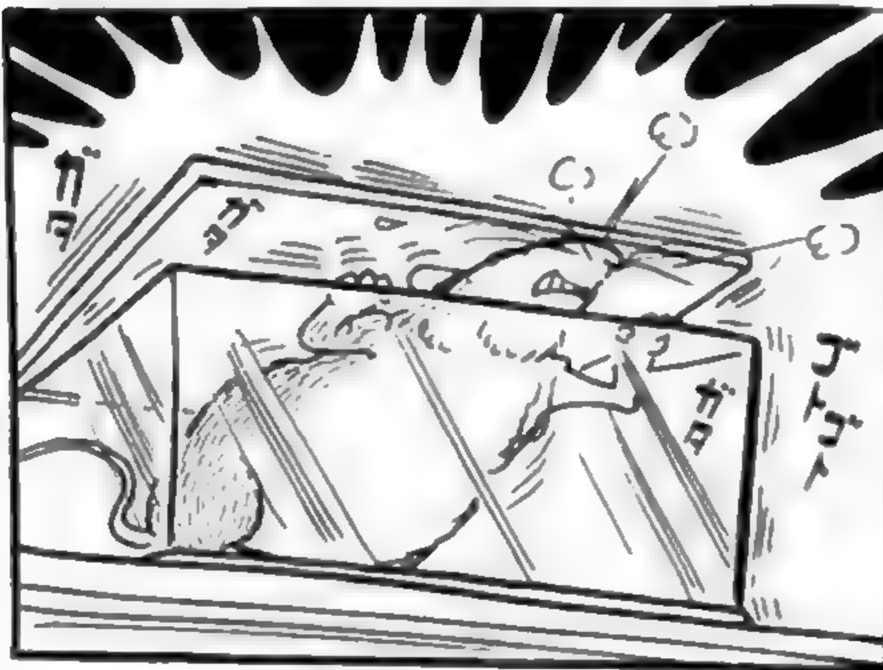

AND HOW ABOUT THE TULIP


LITTLE BY LITTLE IT'S GROWING


HMM ....




THE BUDS HAVE COME OUT AND THE ROOTS HAVE GROWN A LITTLE LONGER
THIS IS AMAZING
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

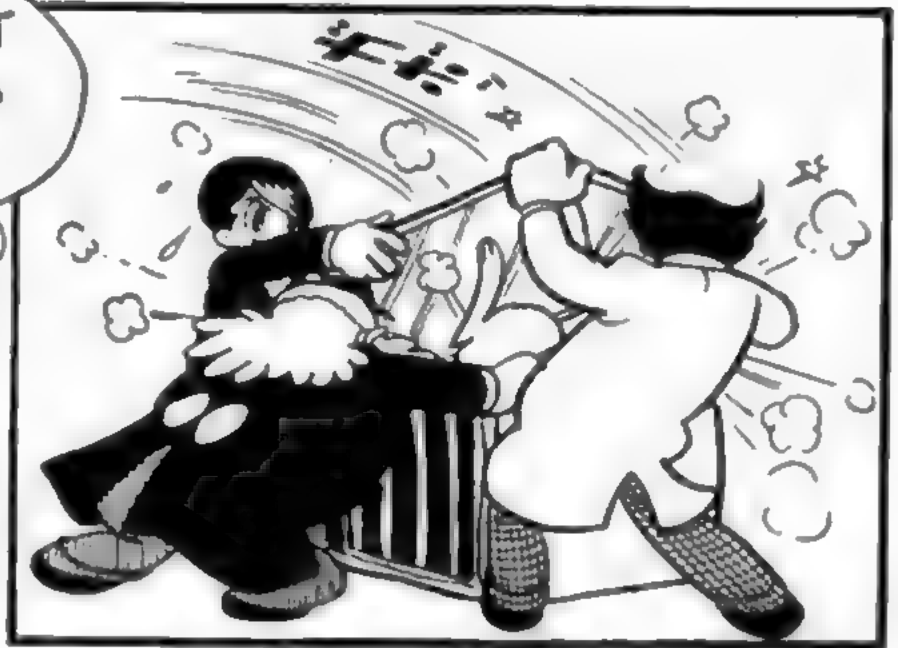

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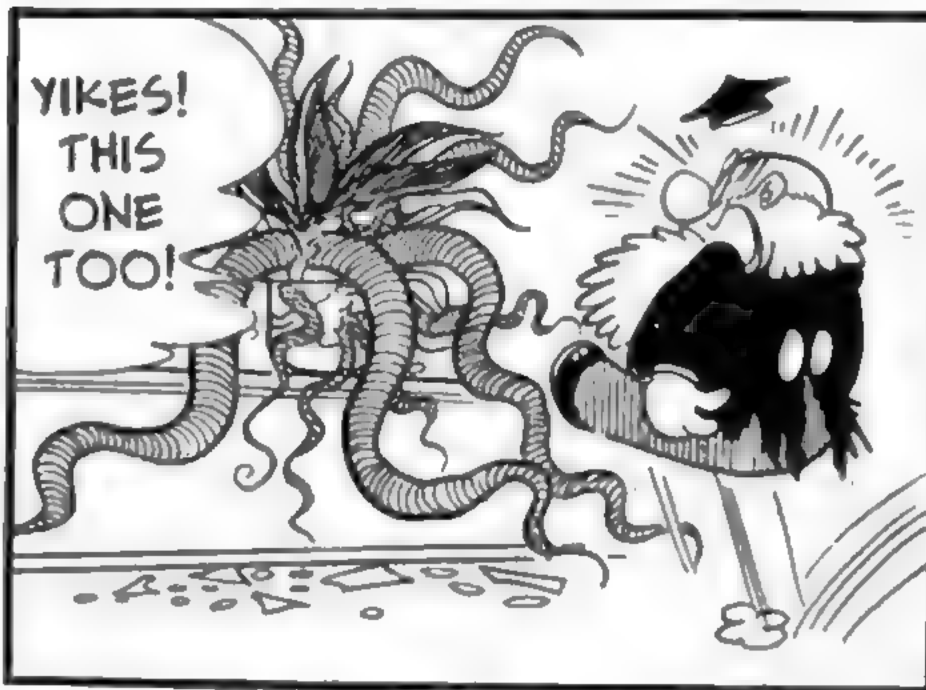

WHOA! FATHER!
EH?


YES! HERE IT IS

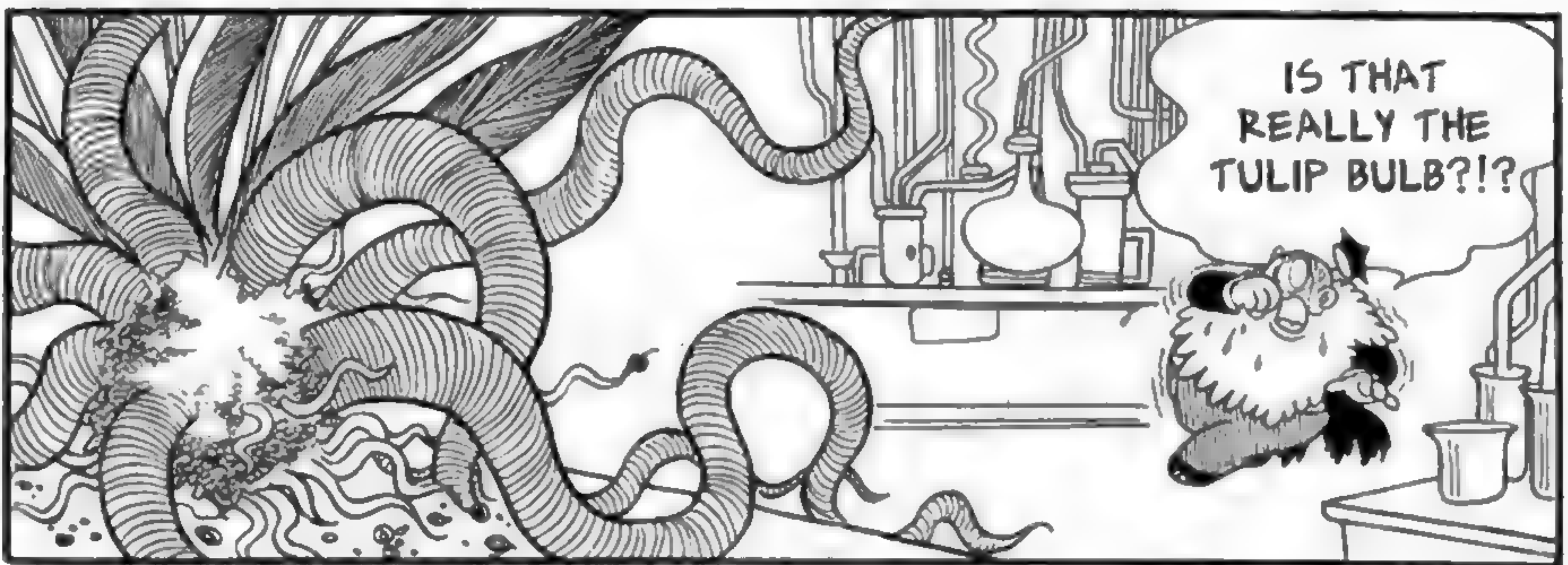

WHAT THE? AKIRA, GET THE BIGGER CAGE!

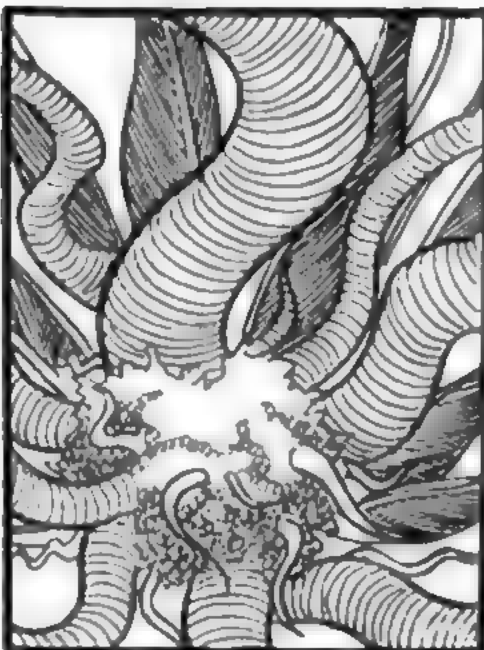

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE PUTTING A RAT IN A DOG'S CAGE



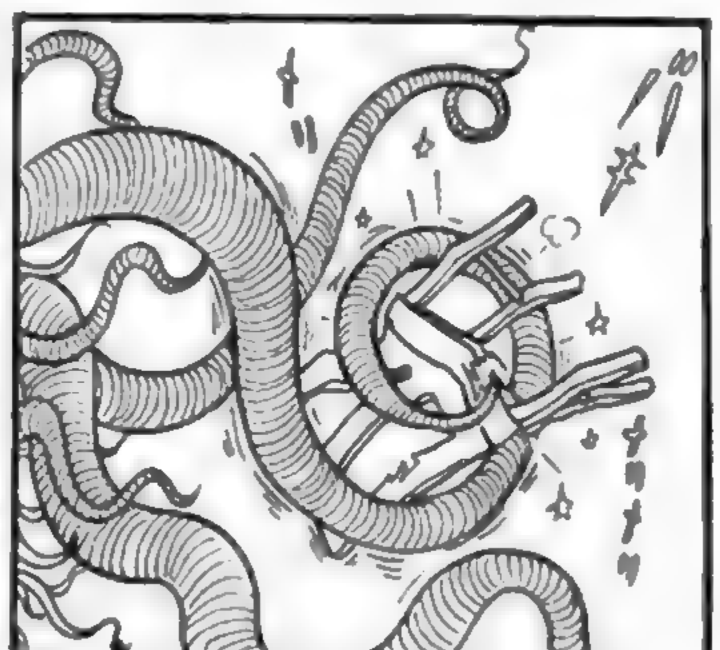

YIKES! THIS ONE TOO!

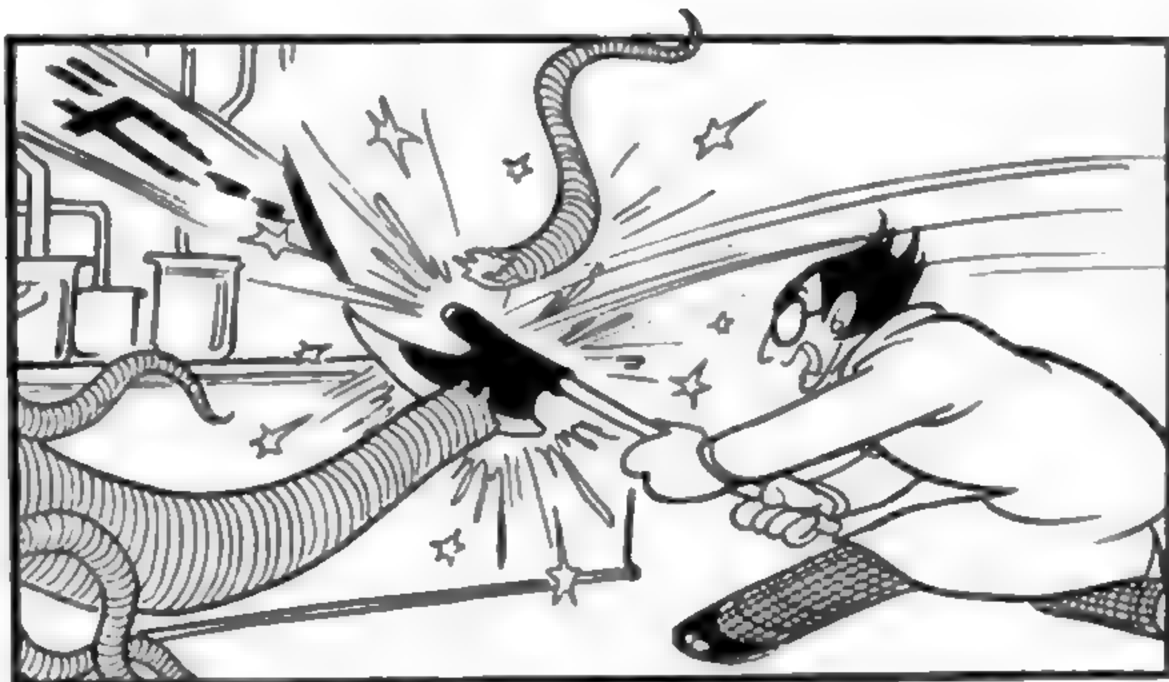

OH NO! IT'S BITING THROUGH THE BARS!


IS THAT REALLY THE TULIP BULB?!?

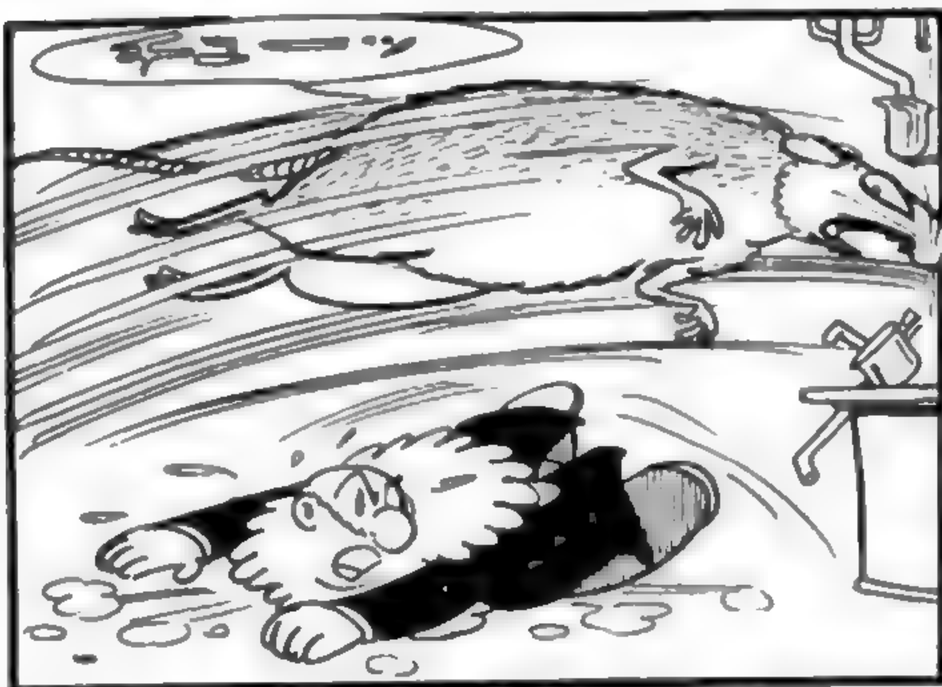



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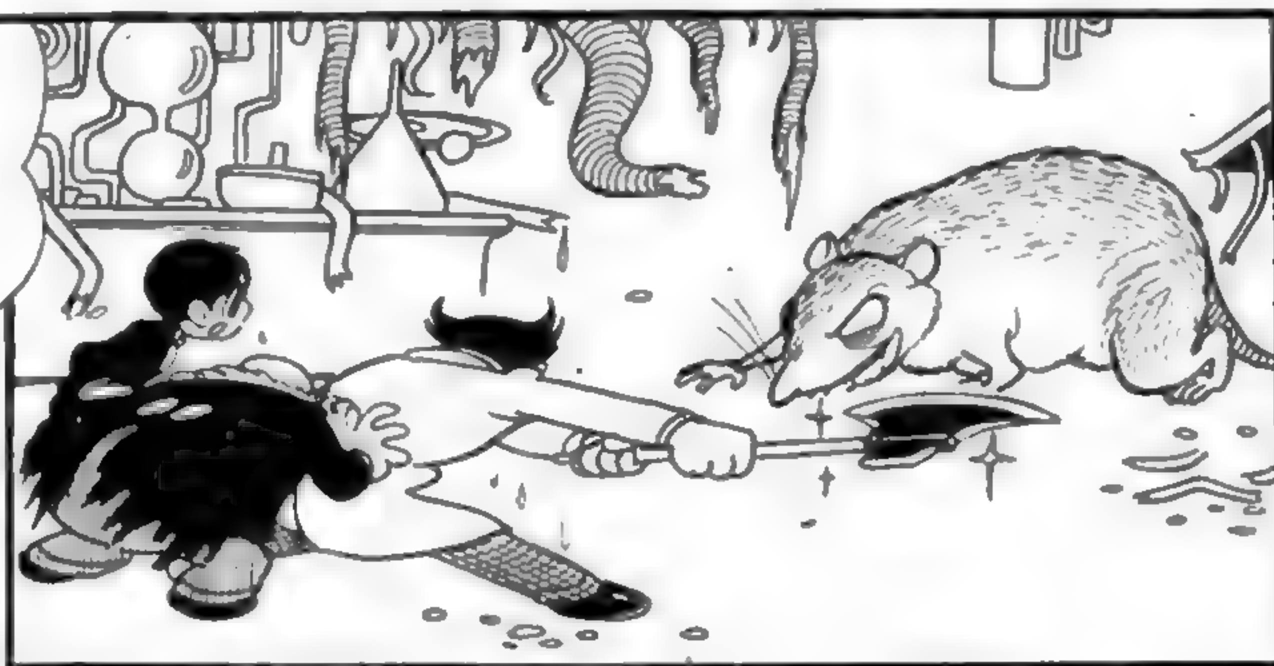


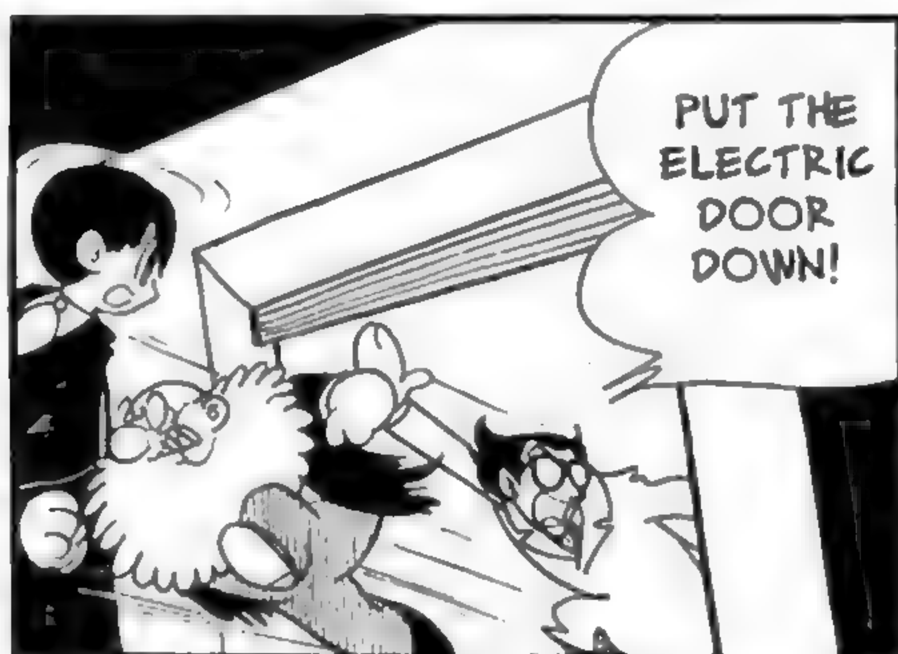

AKIRA LEND ME THE AXE

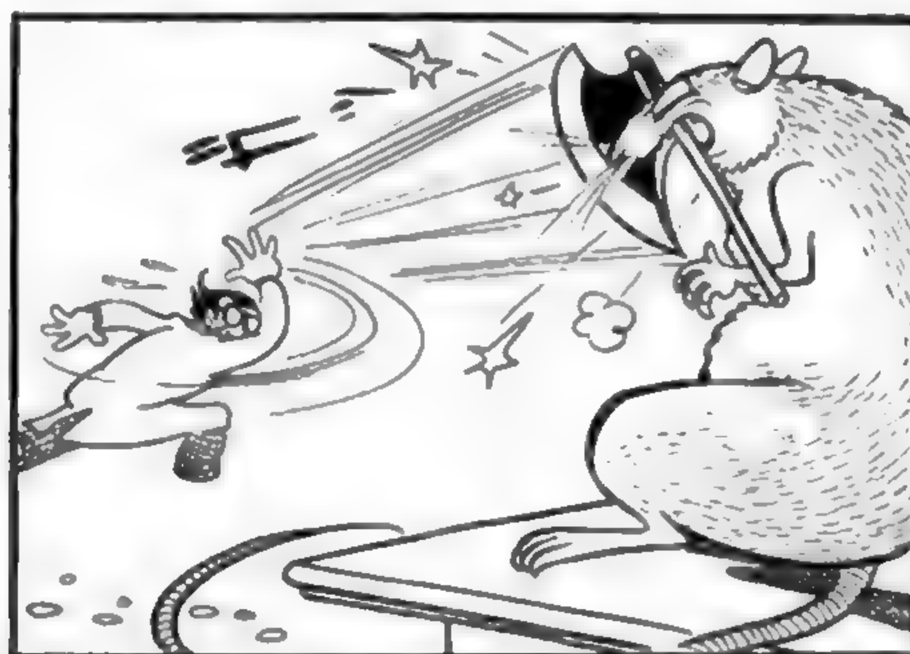




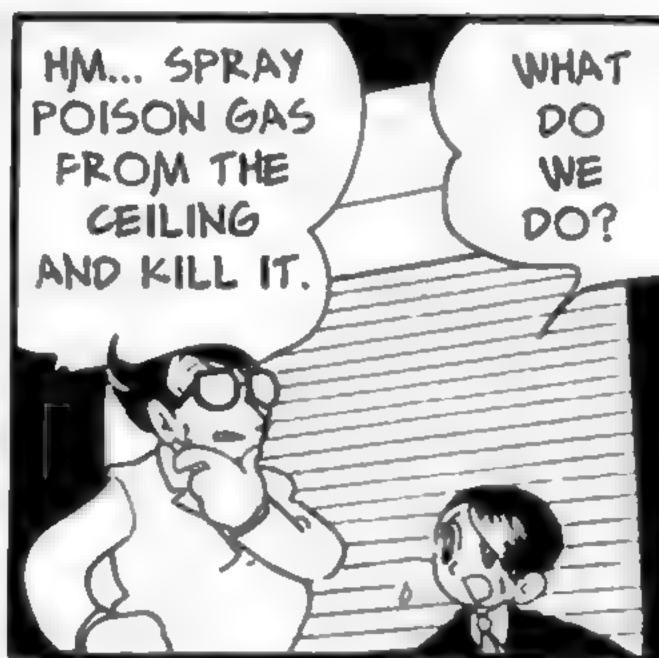

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

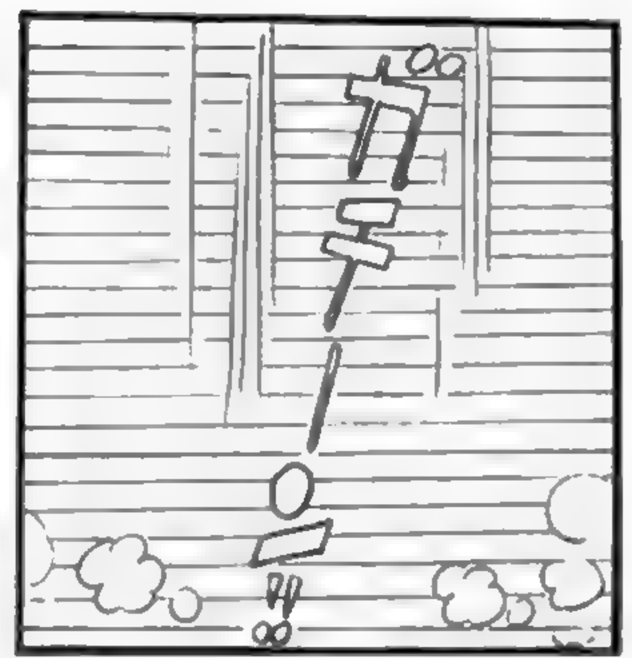



PUT THE ELECTRIC DOOR DOWN!




THIS IS WHY YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE DONE THIS


HM... SPRAY POISON GAS FROM THE CEILING AND KILL IT.
WHAT DO WE DO?




DR ASAGUMO, PLEASE GO GET THE BIG X FORMULA
AH!


WHERE'S THE BIG X CARD?
THAT'S RIGHT... THE PAST FEW DAYS HAVE BEEN A BIT OF A CRAP SHOOT


THE NAZI ALLIANCE ....


NO WAY! WE CAN'T GO IN THERE!


TAKE ME TO IT


IT'S IN THE LAB, BUT I CAN'T GO IN THERE RIGHT NOW.


YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DON'T DO AS YOU ARE TOLD
......

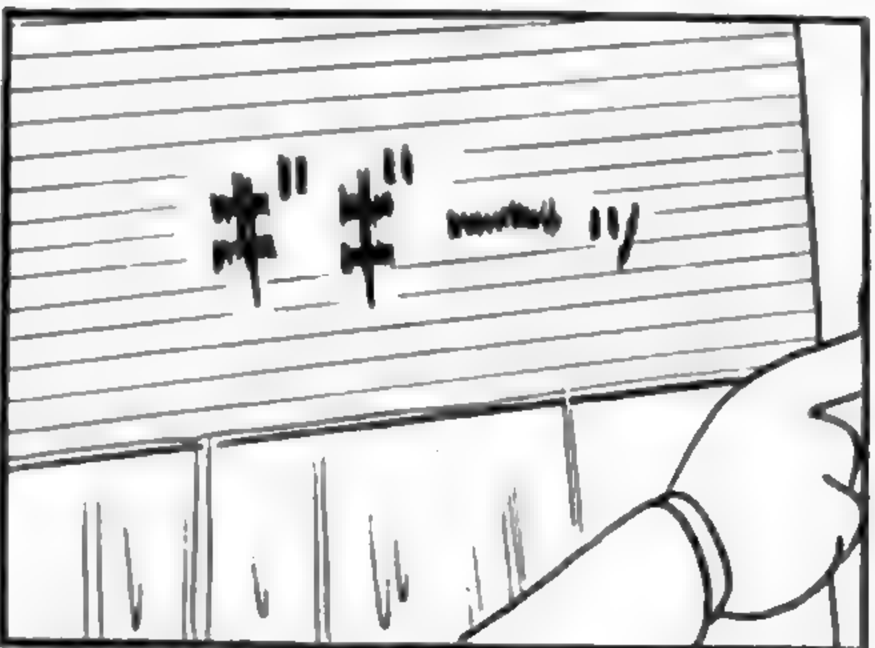

TAKE ME!


DON'T TRY ANYTHING FUNNY


OKAY, OPEN THAT DOOR


YOU TAKE ME FOR A FOOL? IF YOU DON'T OPEN IT YOUR SON GETS A HOLE IN HIS CHEST


WAIT... THERE IS A MONSTER TRAPPED INSIDE OF THIS ROOM!

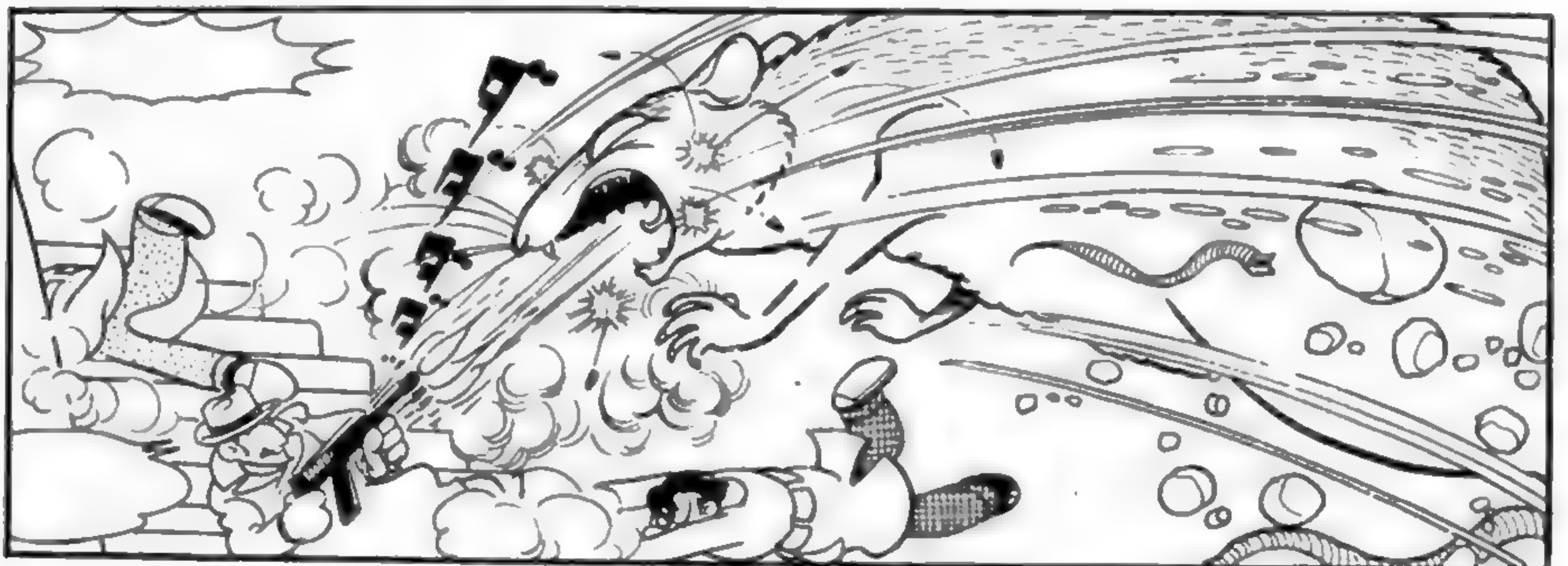

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DOCTOR... AKIRA... IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, RUN AWAY

IT'S IT'S HUGE!

Ghiaaaahhh!!!

AIIGHH!

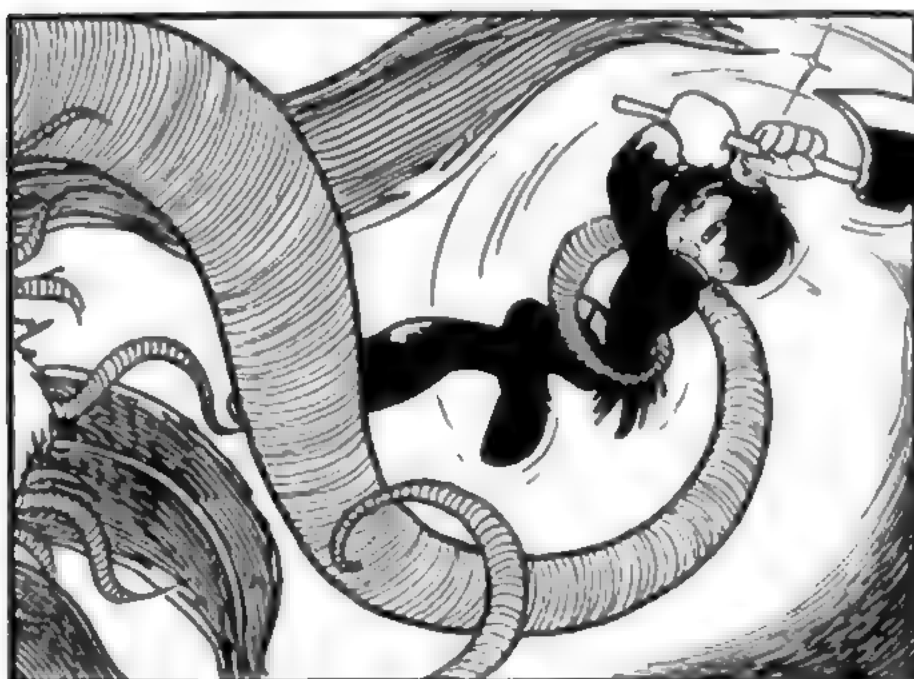





EEAYYYAAAAA!

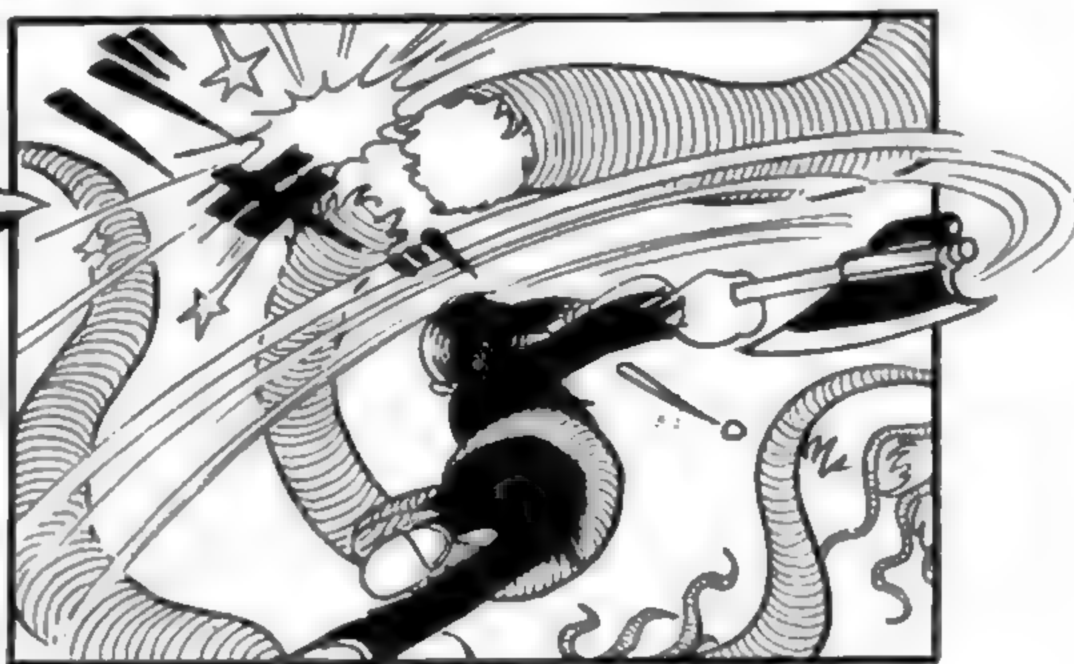




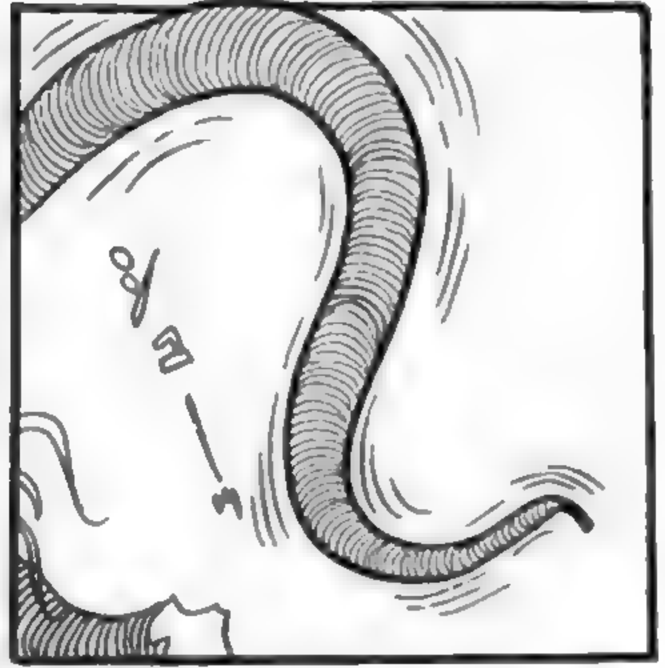


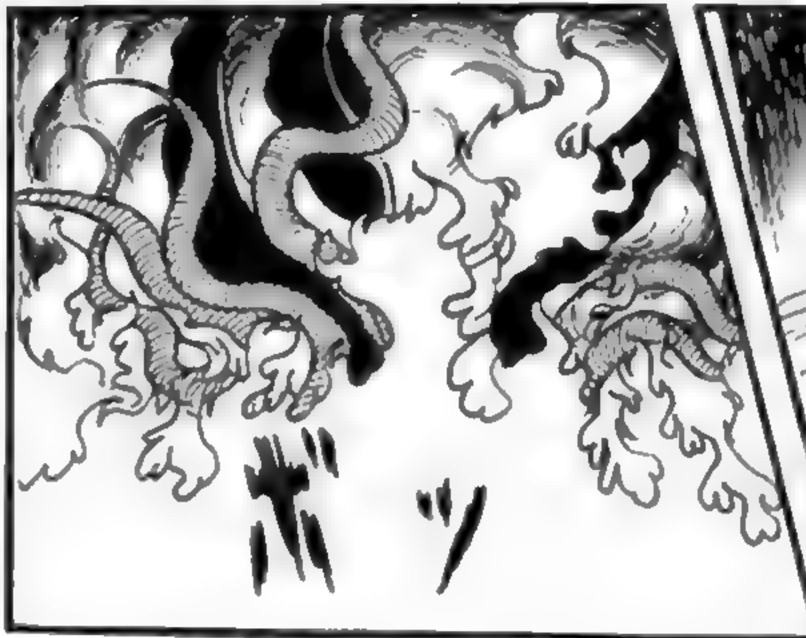

AKIRA
...
AKIRAAA

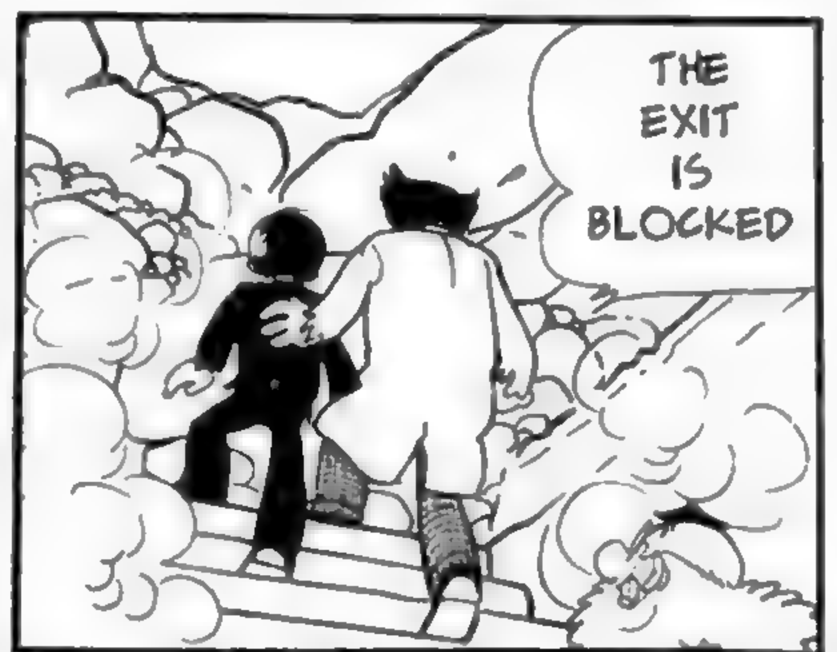


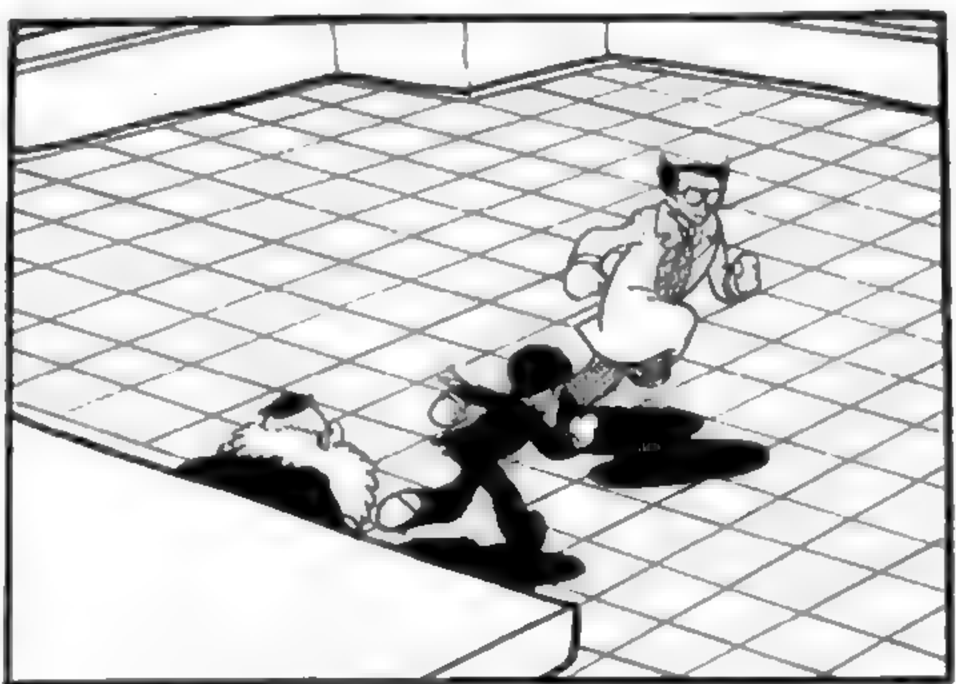


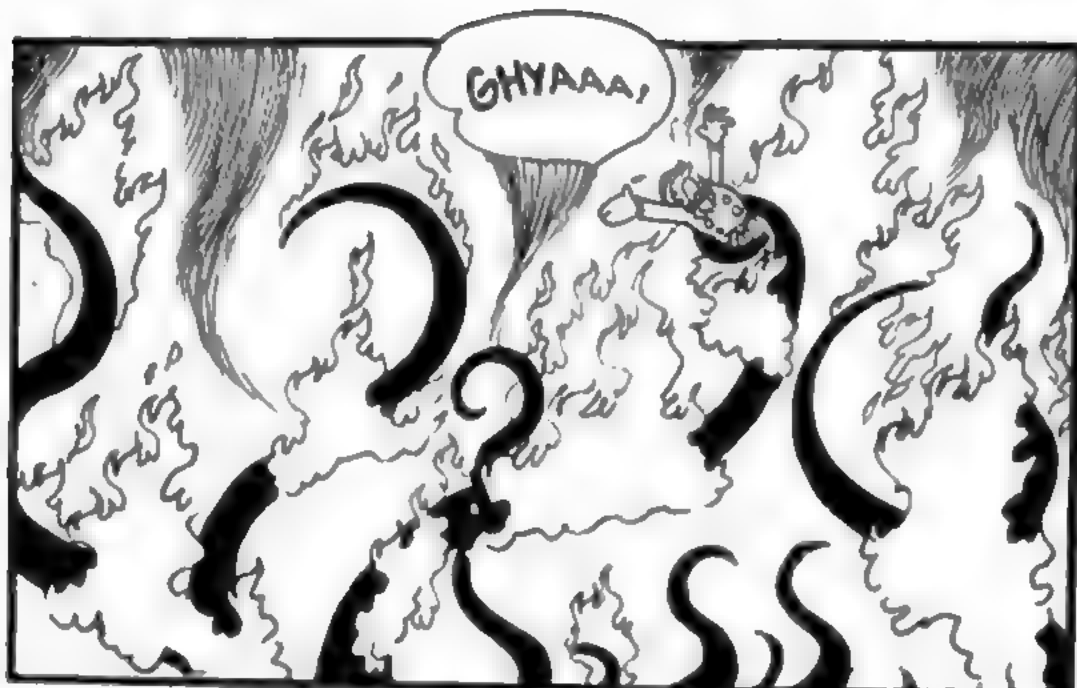


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THERE'S NO WAY OUT... WE HAVE TO TRY FOR THE ROOF

THE EXIT IS BLOCKED

AH!



GHYAAA,


NO GOOD...


THIS...
THIS
STUFF!


DAD, DR. HANAMARU IS RIGHT. THAT DRUG IS REALLY DANGEROUS!

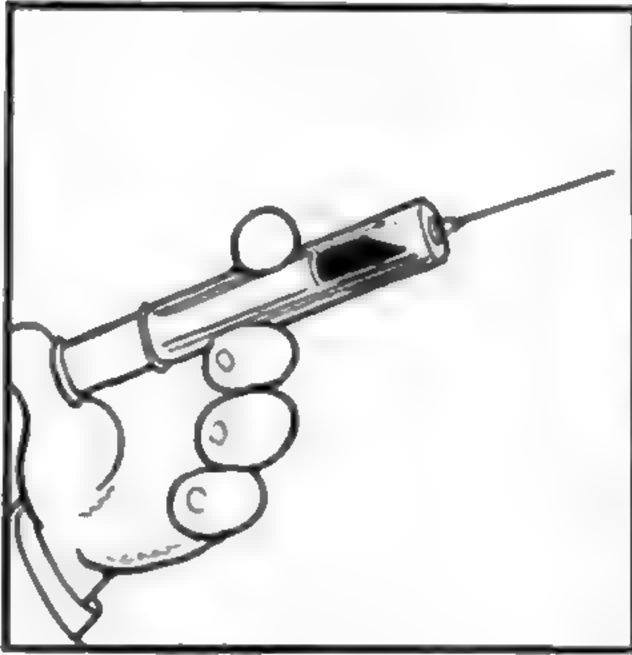

BUT... IS THERE INJECTION SOLUTION LEFT?
WELL.. THERE'S A LOT LEFT...

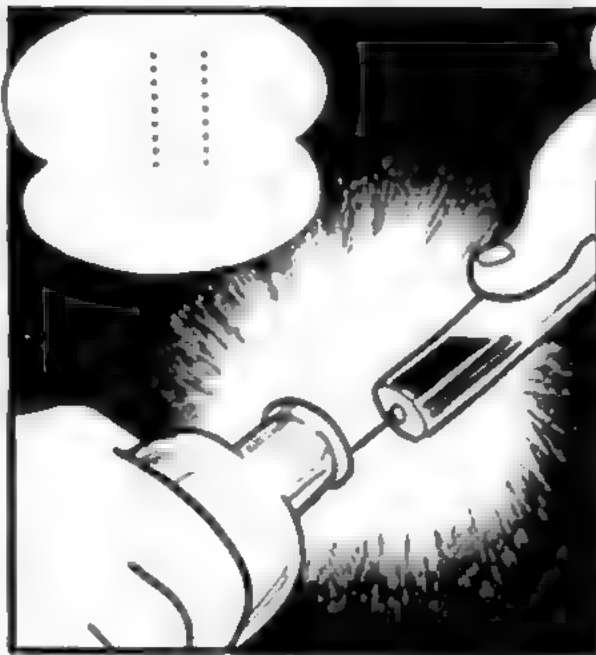

IT'S TERRIBLE.. I CAN'T KEEP THIS HORRIBLE THING!
DAD WAIT! DON'T THROW IT AWAY!


COME ON! DO IT!

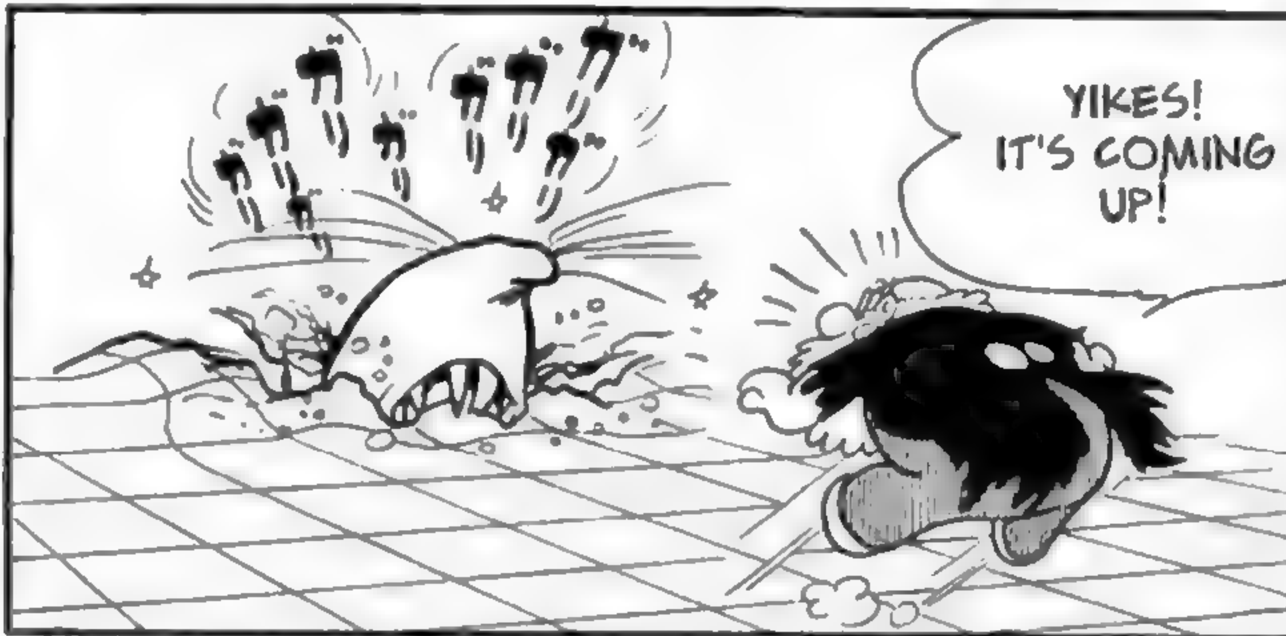

BUT .....
GUNS AND KNIVES WON'T HURT IT. THERE'S NO OTHER WAY!


WHAT?
THEN GIVE ME A SHOT





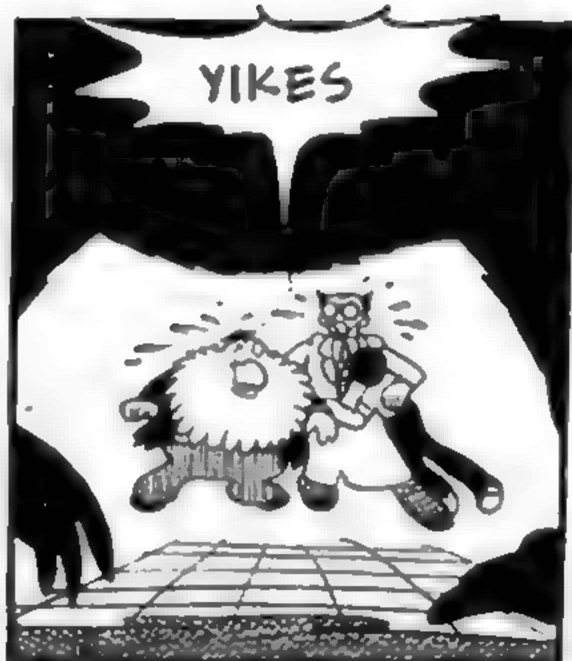






YAAHH!







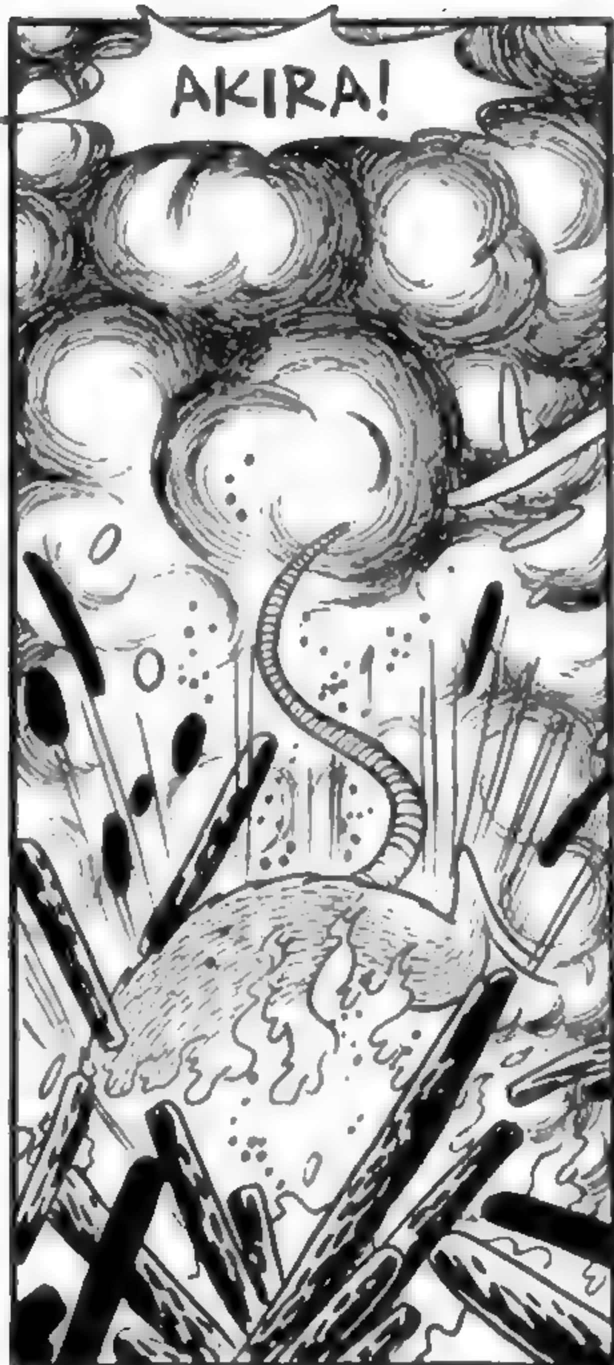






GYUUUU

AKIRA!

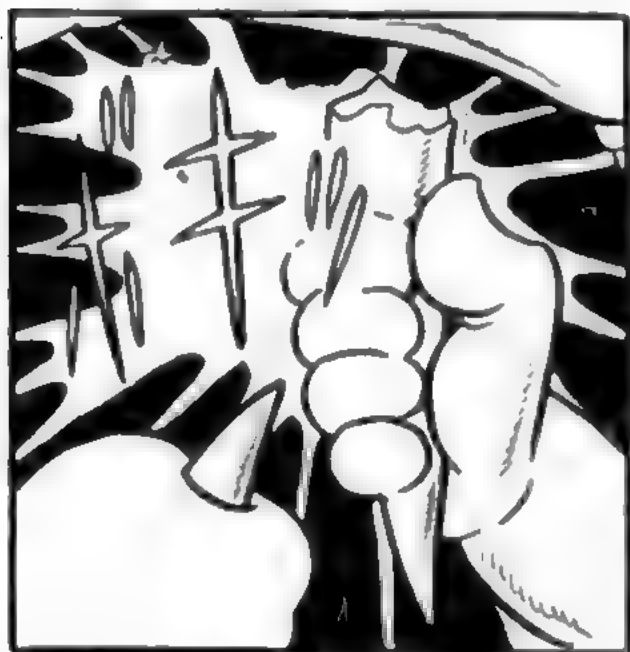

AKIRA!


KIKIIIII


WHOA!
THEY'RE FALLING!


PROFESSOR... THE RAT IS GETTING BIGGER AND BIGGER!
SO IS AKIRA!



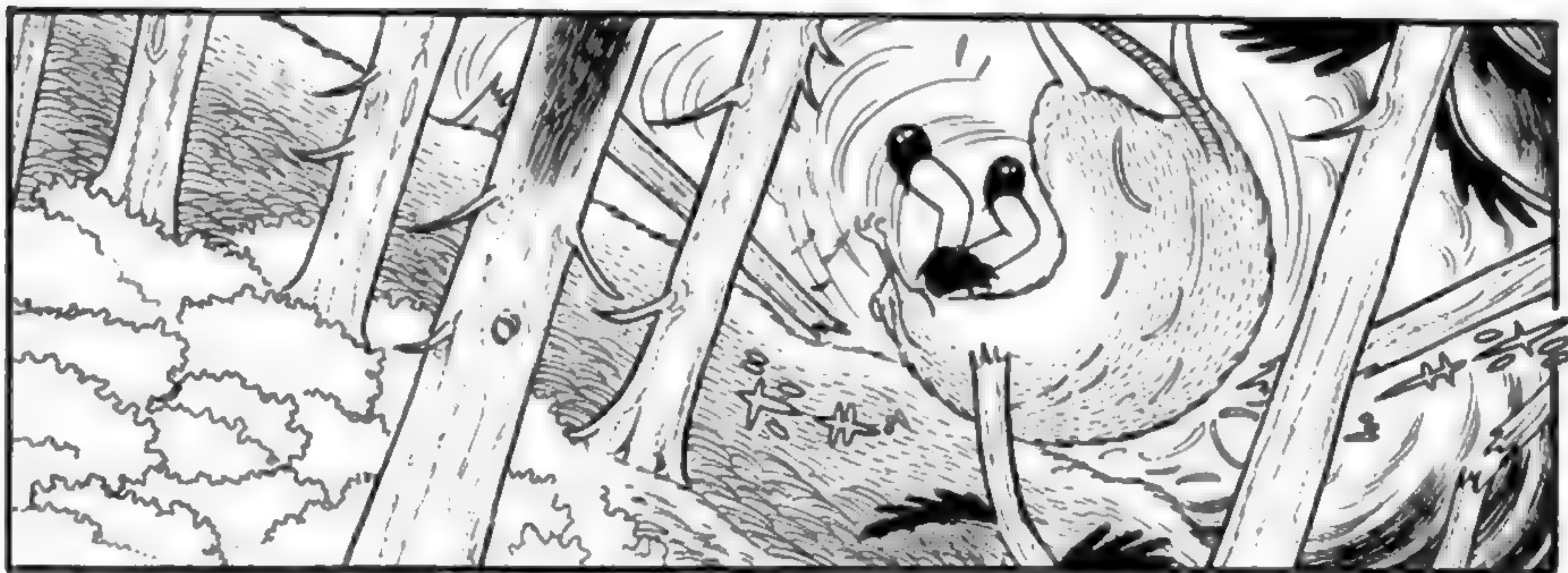


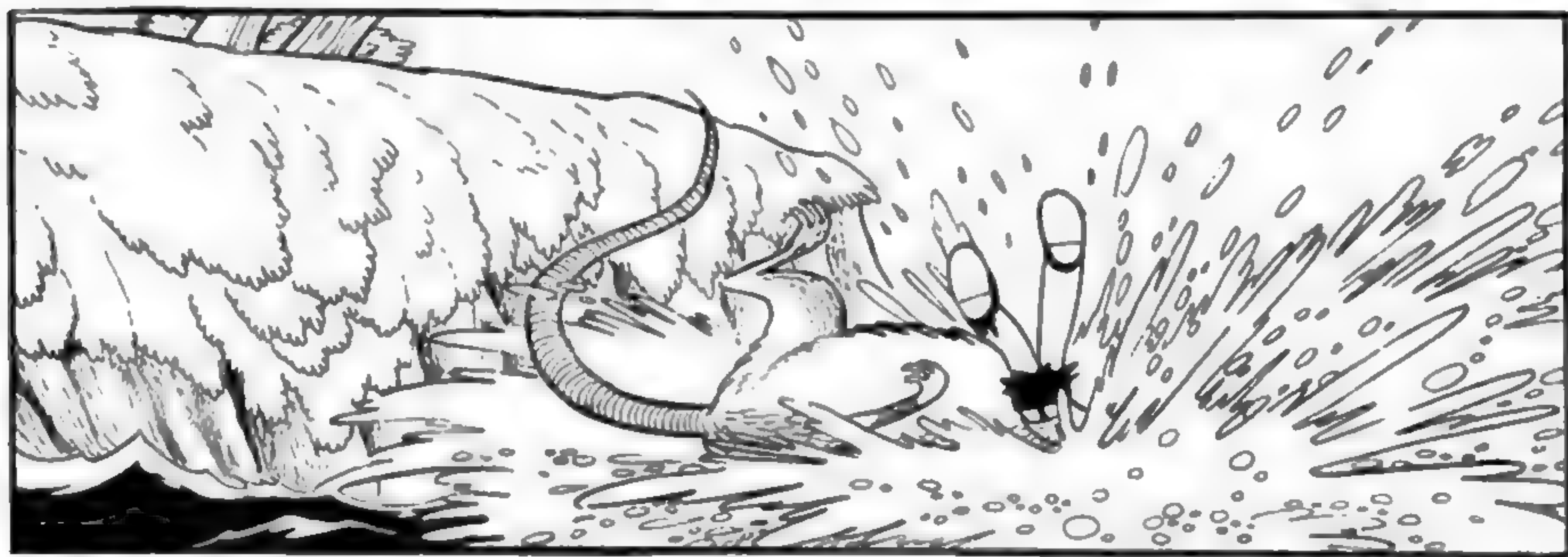

CHIYAAA



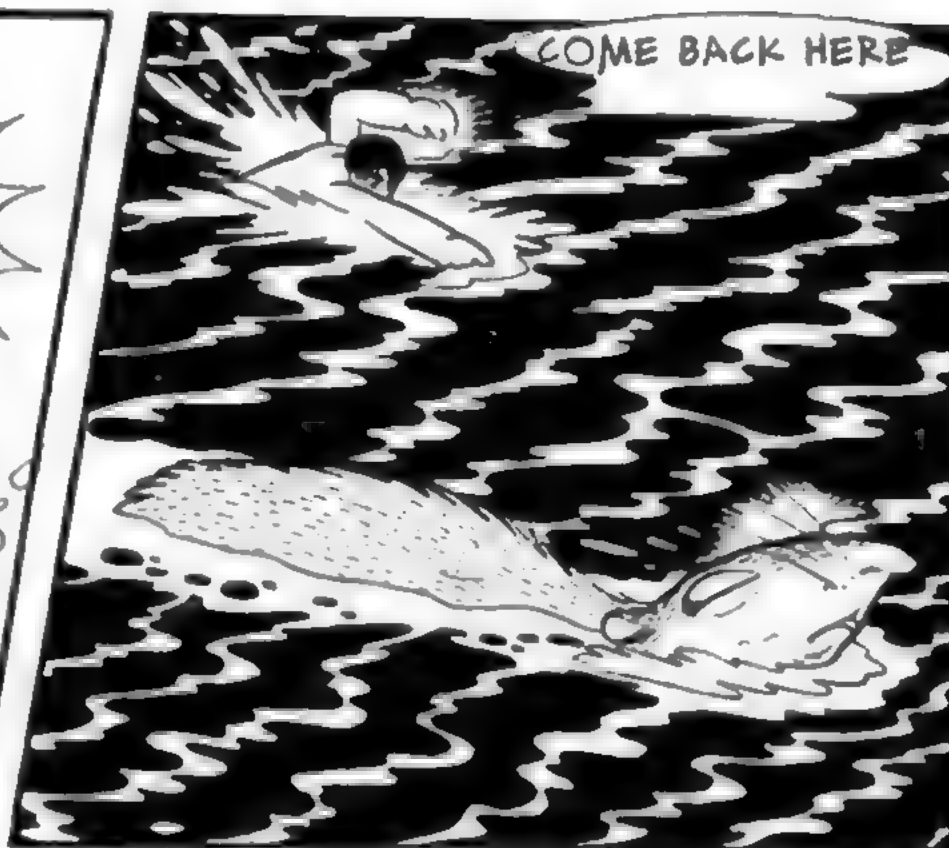



GYAAA!



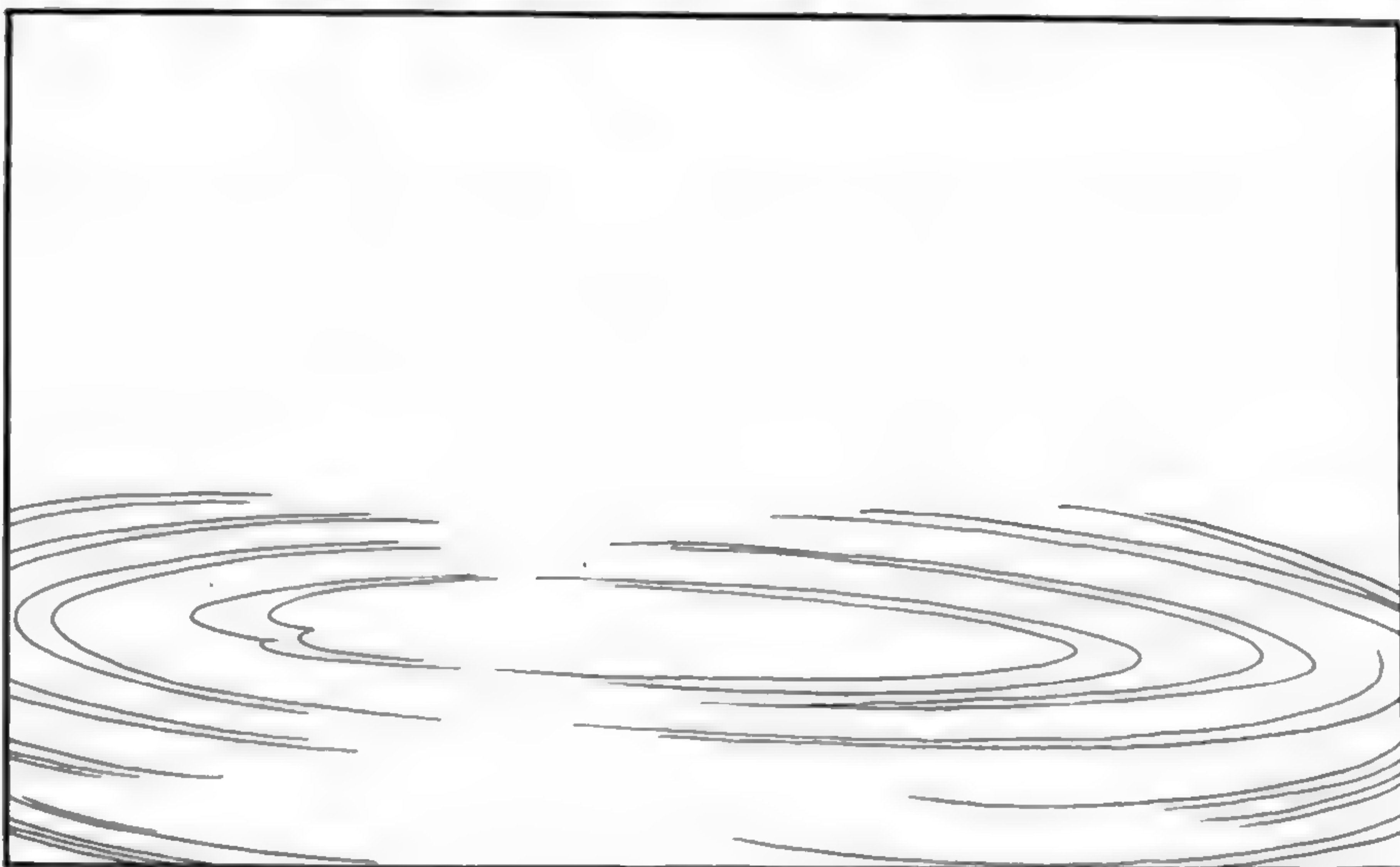


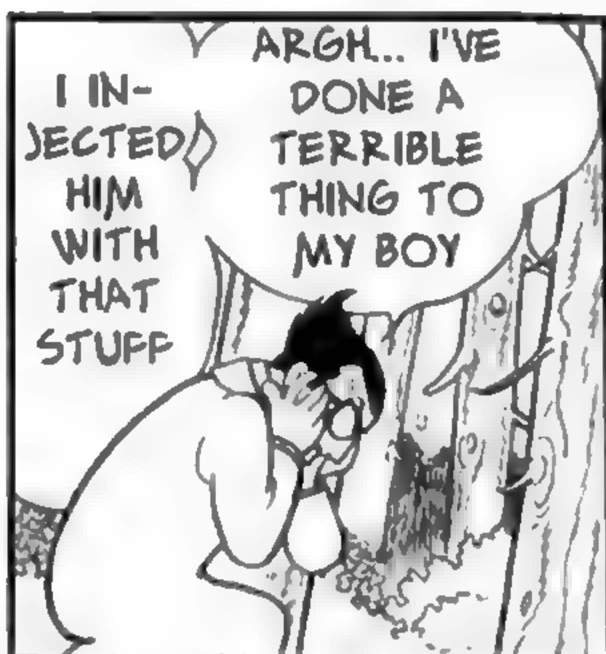

KIKIII
GYAAA!!!


COME BACK HERE


ゴボ
ゴボ
ゴボ
ゴボ
ゴボ





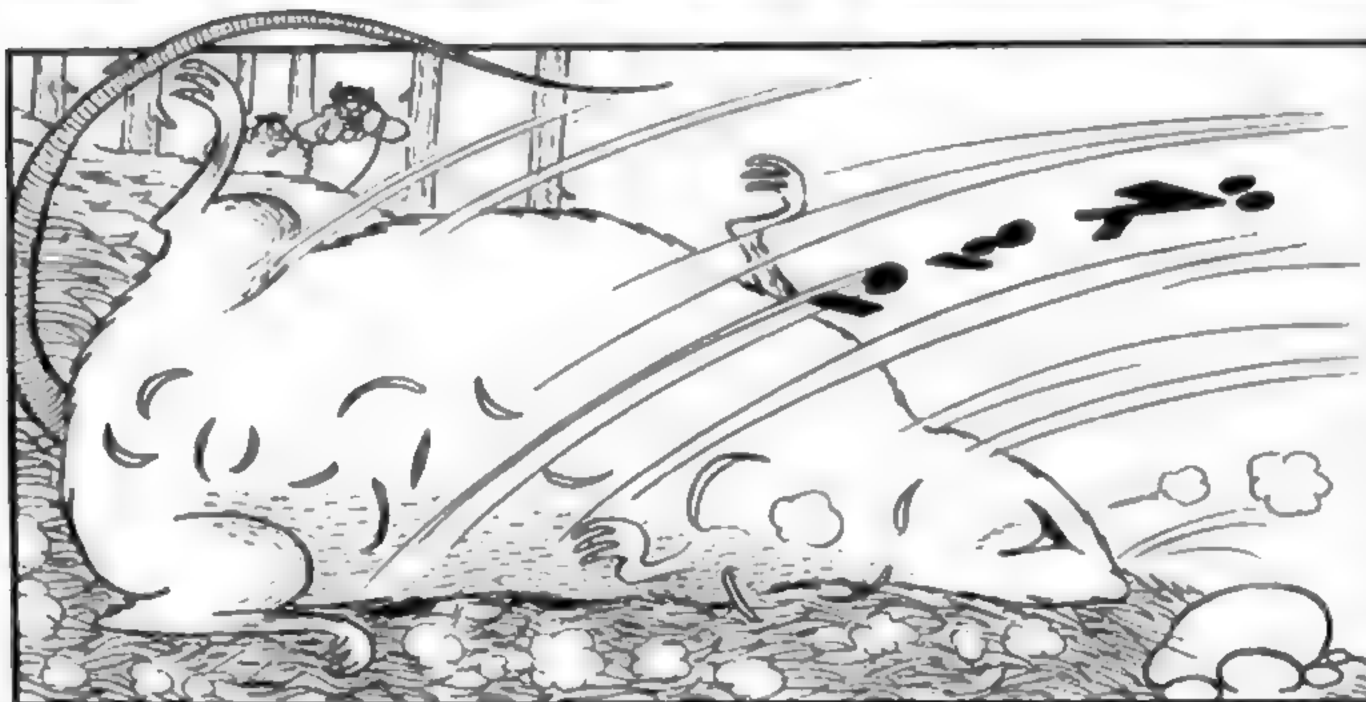

ARGH.. I'VE DONE A TERRIBLE THING TO MY BOY
I INJECTED HIM WITH THAT STUFF




WHAT HAPPENED TO AKIRA?
THEY BOTH SUNK




OH! LOOK THERE!




THERE'S AKIRA!


SON! ARE YOU OKAY? NOTHING BROKEN?
DAD!
GI- GI- GI-

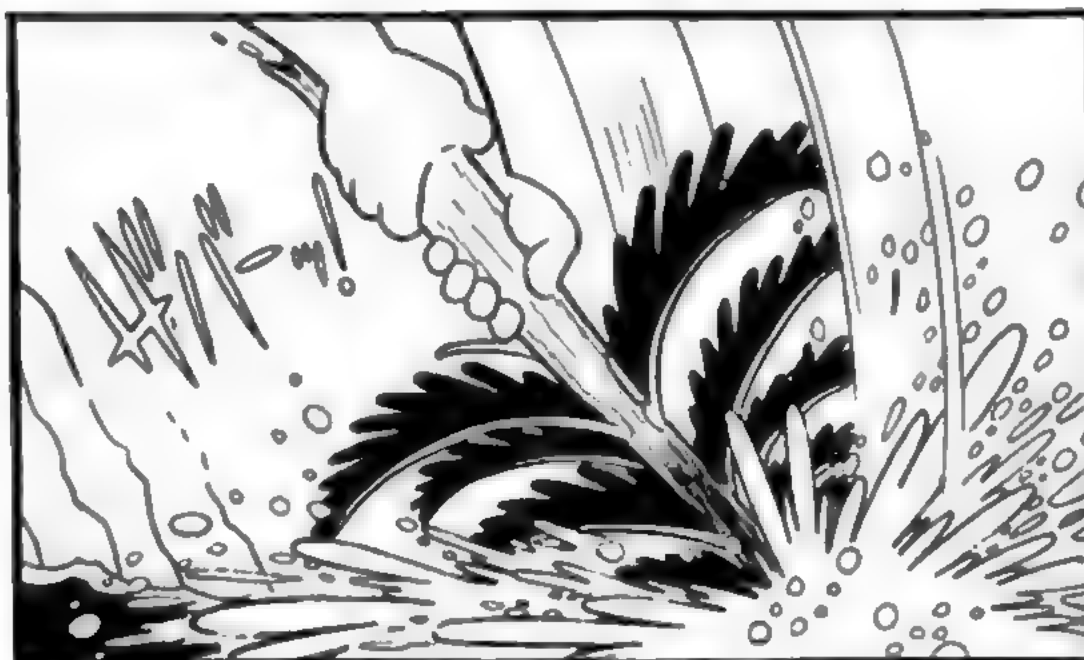


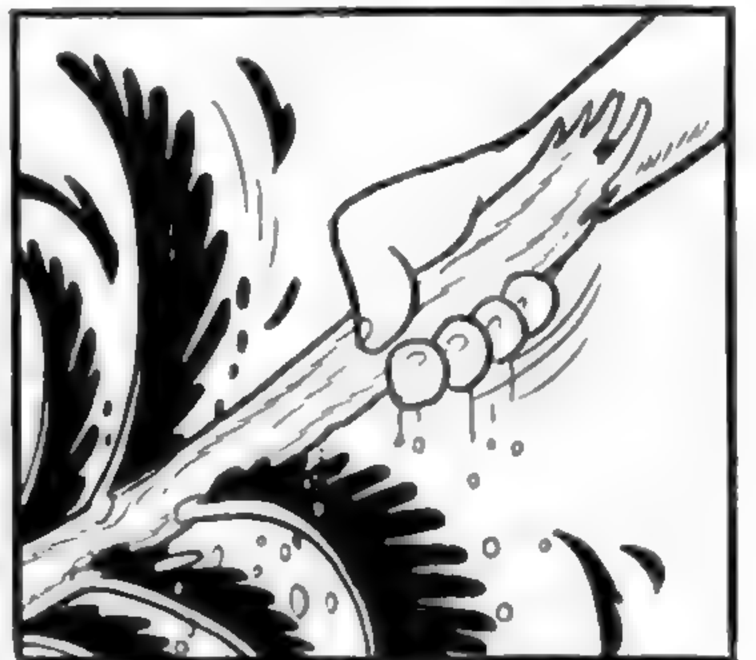


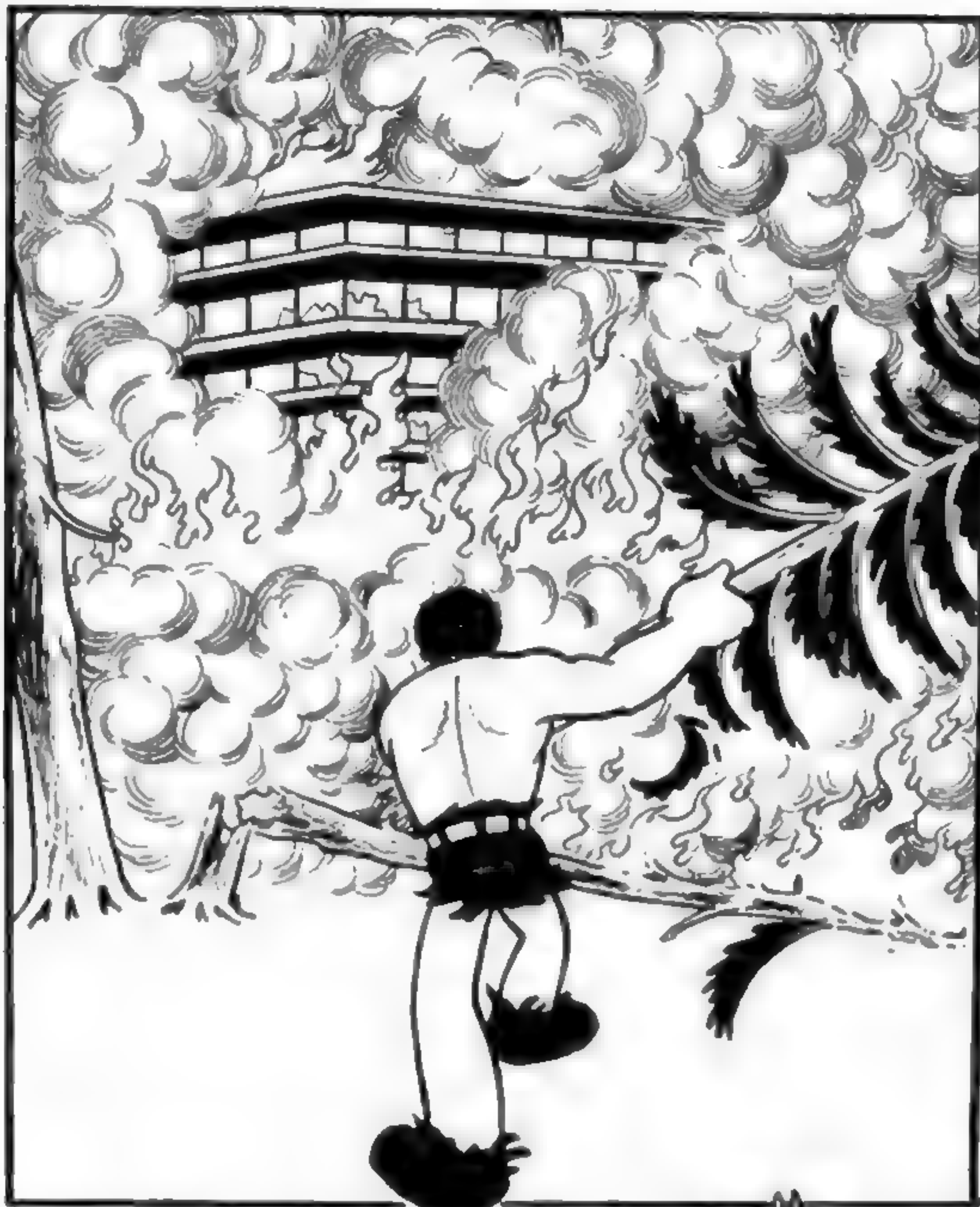

I'M OKAY... JUST... DIFFERENT


I HAVE TO PUT OUT THE FIRE

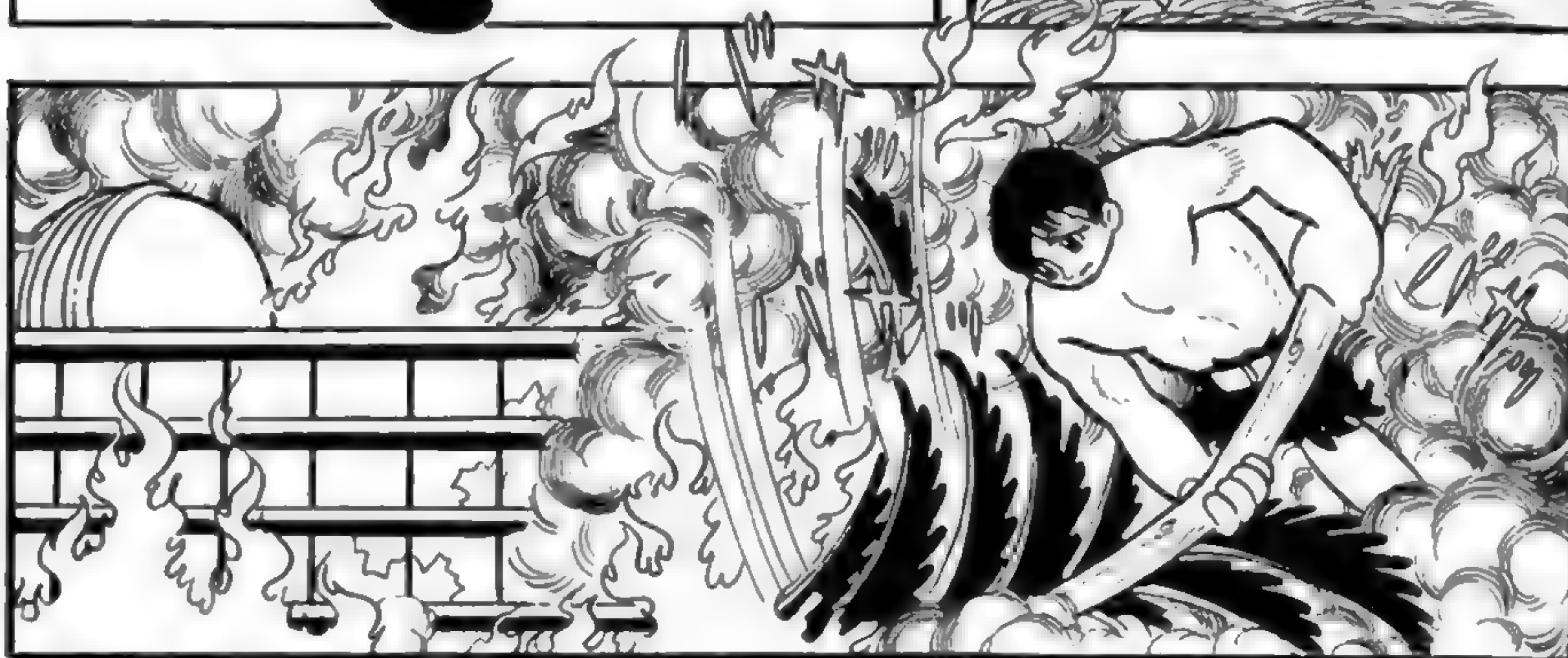

STOP MESSING AROUND!

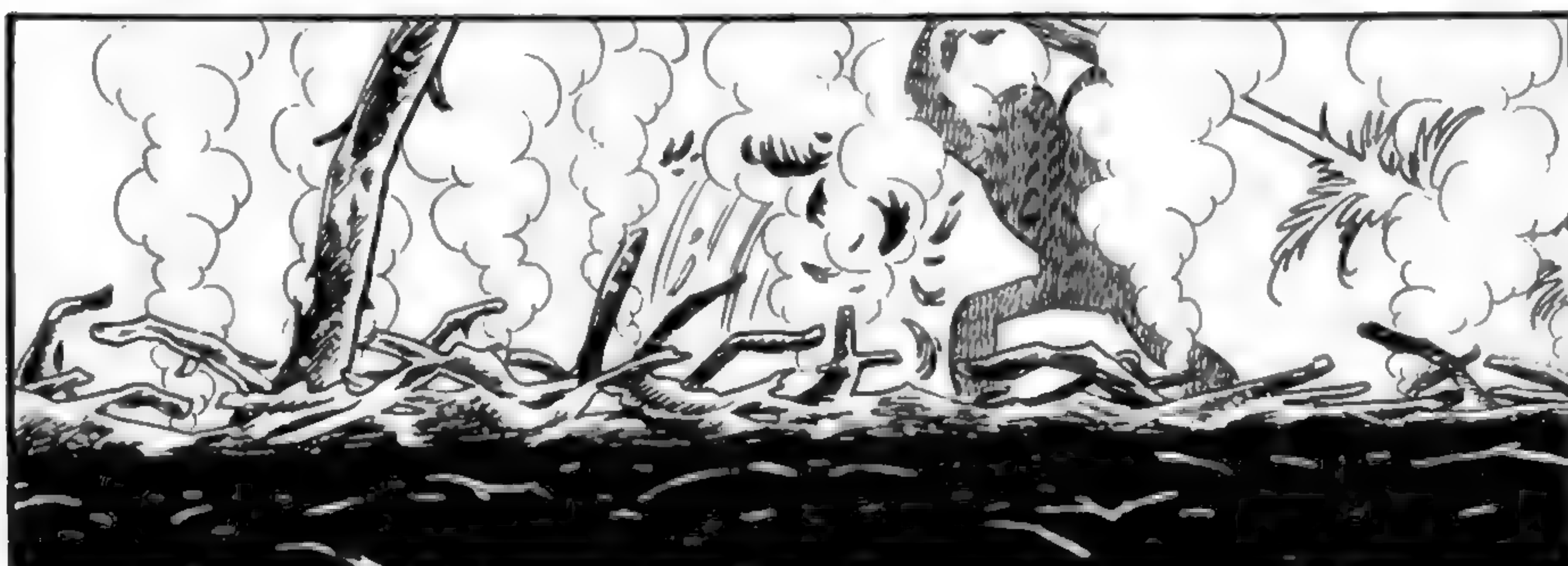


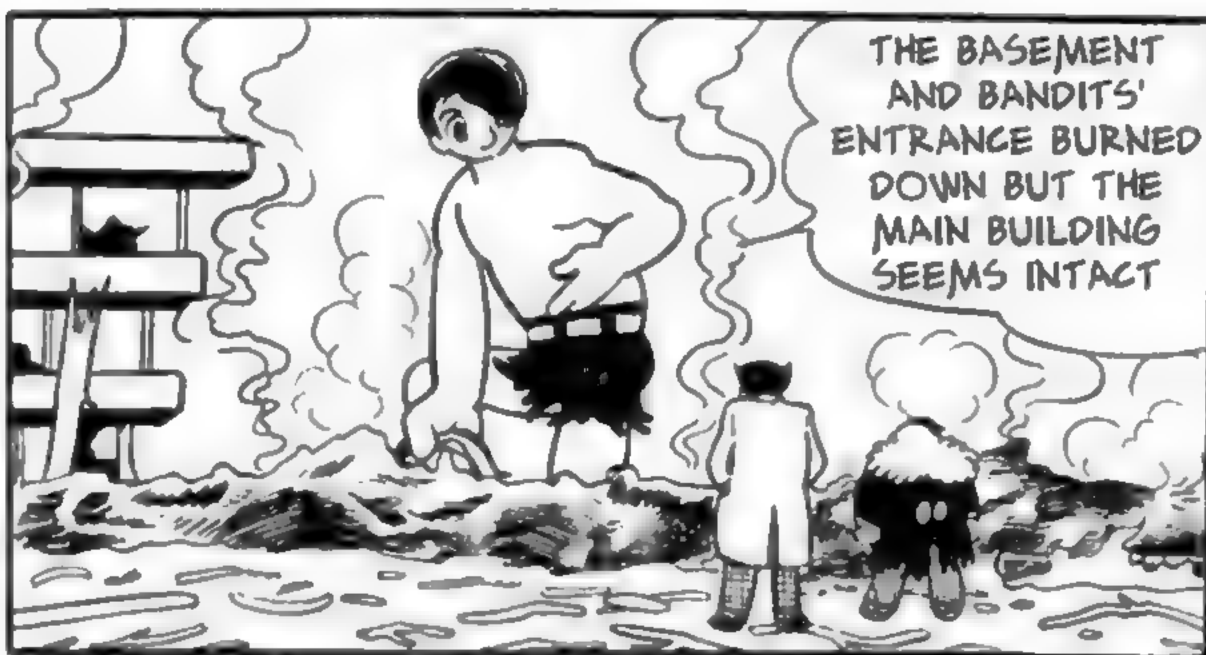


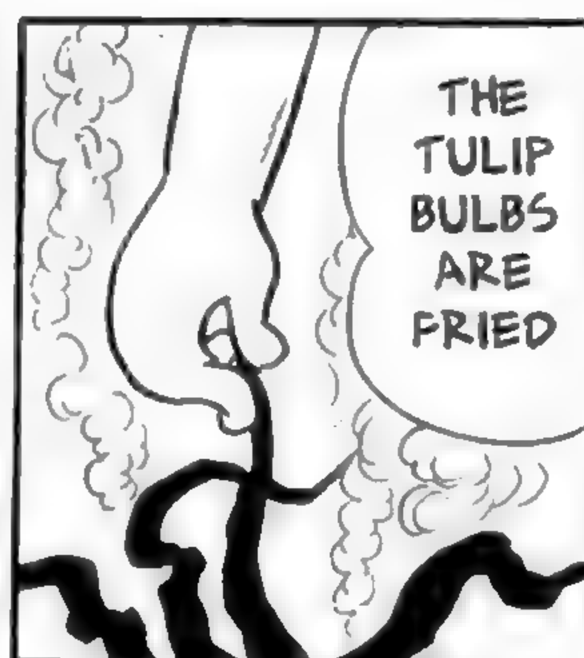



I'LL BEAT THE FIRE WITH THIS






THE BASEMENT AND BANDITS' ENTRANCE BURNED DOWN BUT THE MAIN BUILDING SEEMS INTACT

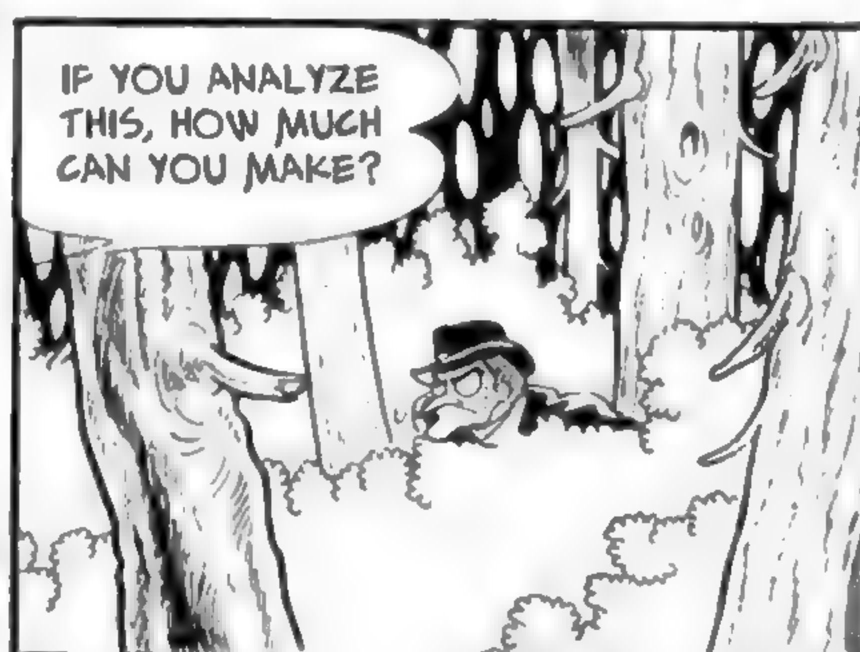

THE TULIP BULBS ARE FRIED


THE BIG X CARD WAS IN THE BASEMENT


DON'T WORRY. THE CARD MAY HAVE BEEN BURNED...
BUT FORTUNE-ATELY


THE BIG X SERUM IS IN HERE.

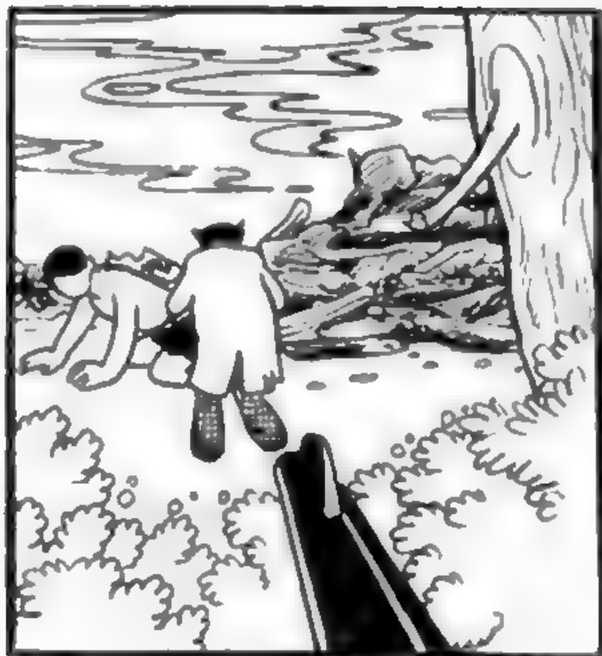

IT SEEMS THOSE SPIES HAVE RUN OFF.


IF YOU ANALYZE THIS, HOW MUCH CAN YOU MAKE?


AH... ARE YOU OKAY?


OH, I'M STARTING TO SHRINK






IT'S NOT TOO BAD... IT DOESN'T HURT


YOU'RE STEADILY GETTING SMALLER


IF WE USE IT FOR JUSTICE ....

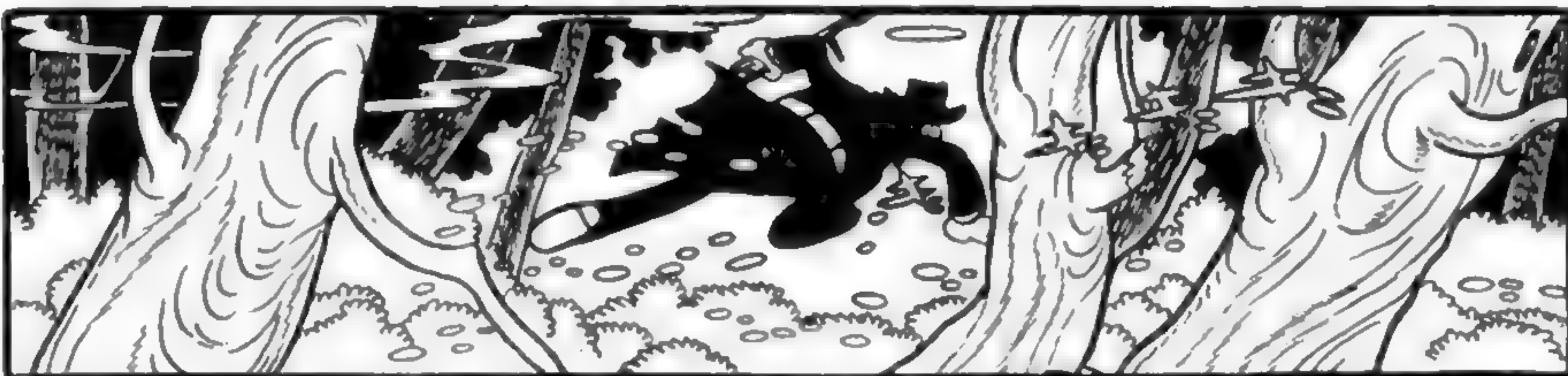


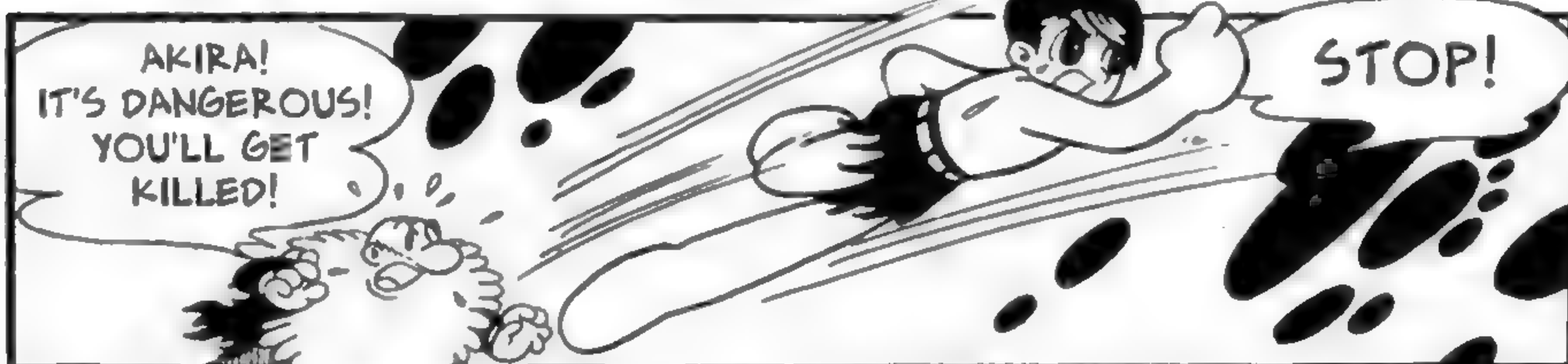

DAD! BIG X CAN BE WONDERFULLY USEFUL, DEPENDING ON HOW WE USE IT!


FATHER!

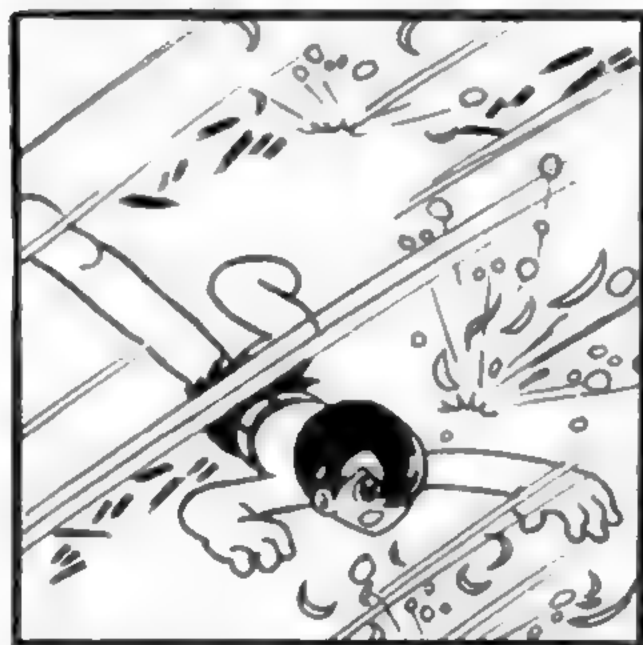

WHO?!?

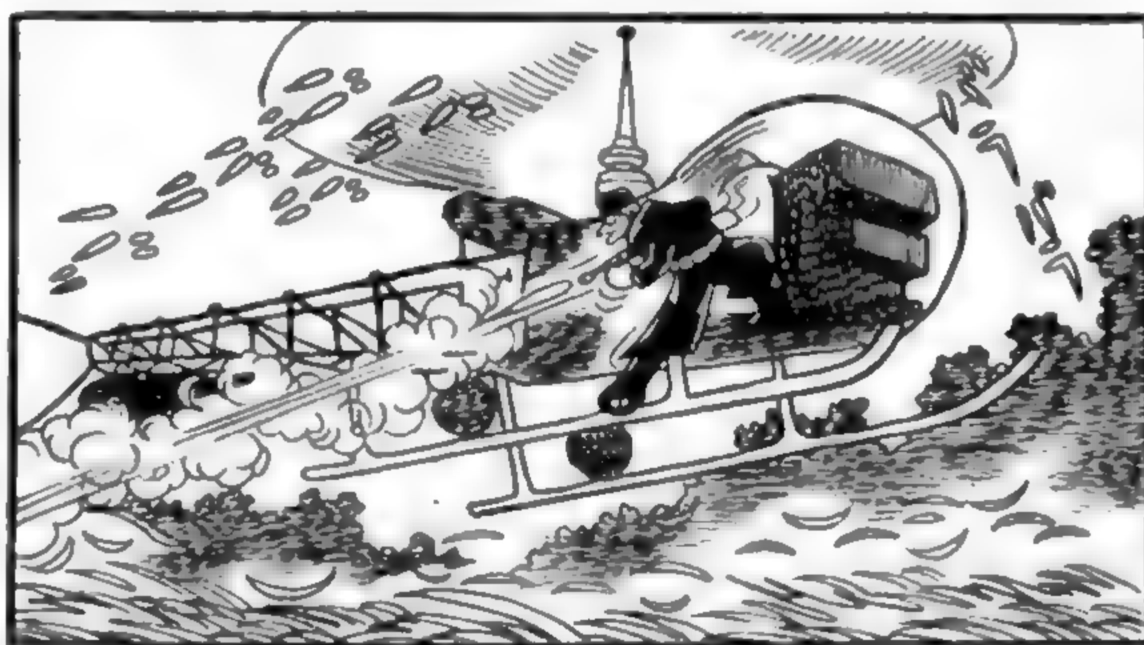

KAPOOW

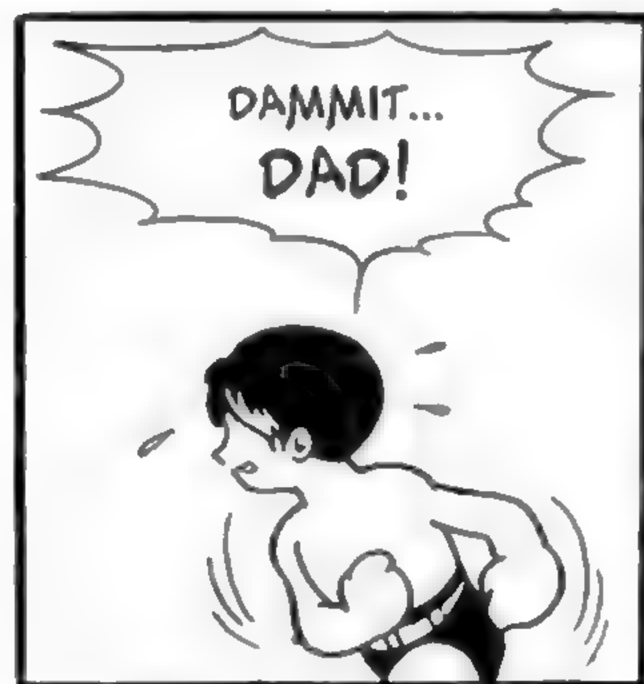



STOP!
AKIRA! IT'S DANGEROUS! YOU'LL GET KILLED!







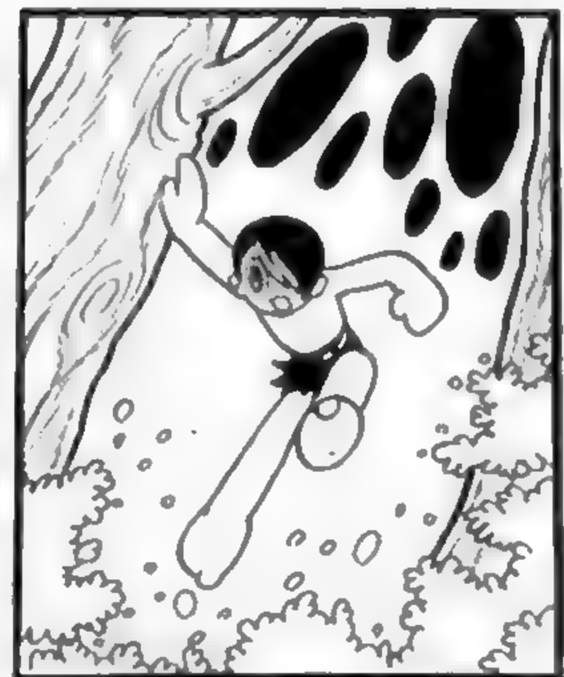

DAMMIT... DAD!

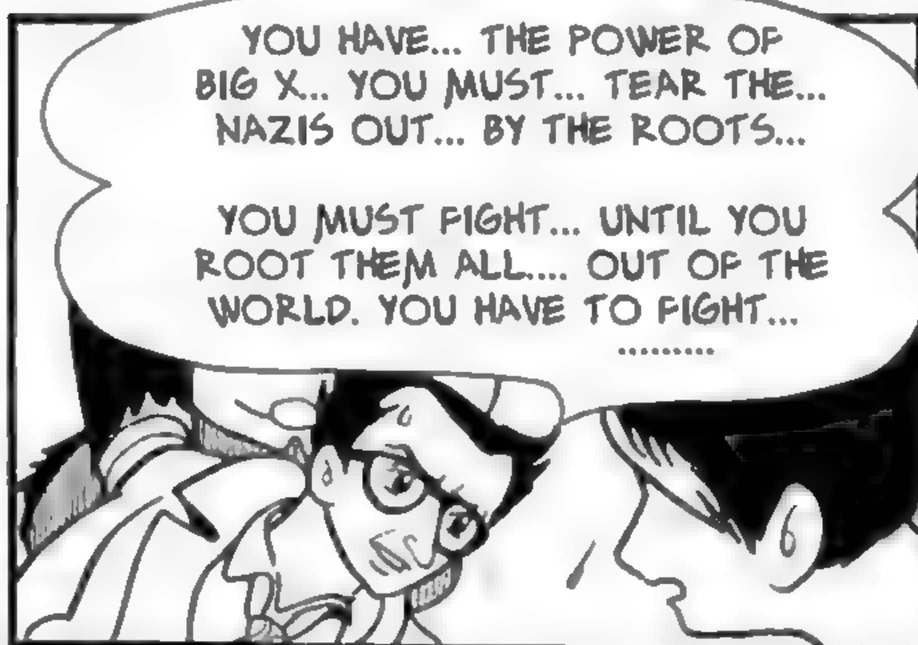

THAT FACE ...
HE'S FROM THE NAZI ALLIANCE




OH, AKIRA
YOU'VE RETURNED


PROF! WHERE'S MY DAD?
YOU DUMMY!
WHO'S GOING TO MAKE RAMEN NOODLES?




YOU HAVE... THE POWER OF BIG X... YOU MUST... TEAR THE... NAZIS OUT... BY THE ROOTS...
YOU MUST FIGHT... UNTIL YOU ROOT THEM ALL.... OUT OF THE WORLD. YOU HAVE TO FIGHT...
....


THE PROF AND I... USED TO THRIVE ON... RAMEN.
.....
LISTEN AKIRA... YOU'RE A GOOD BOY



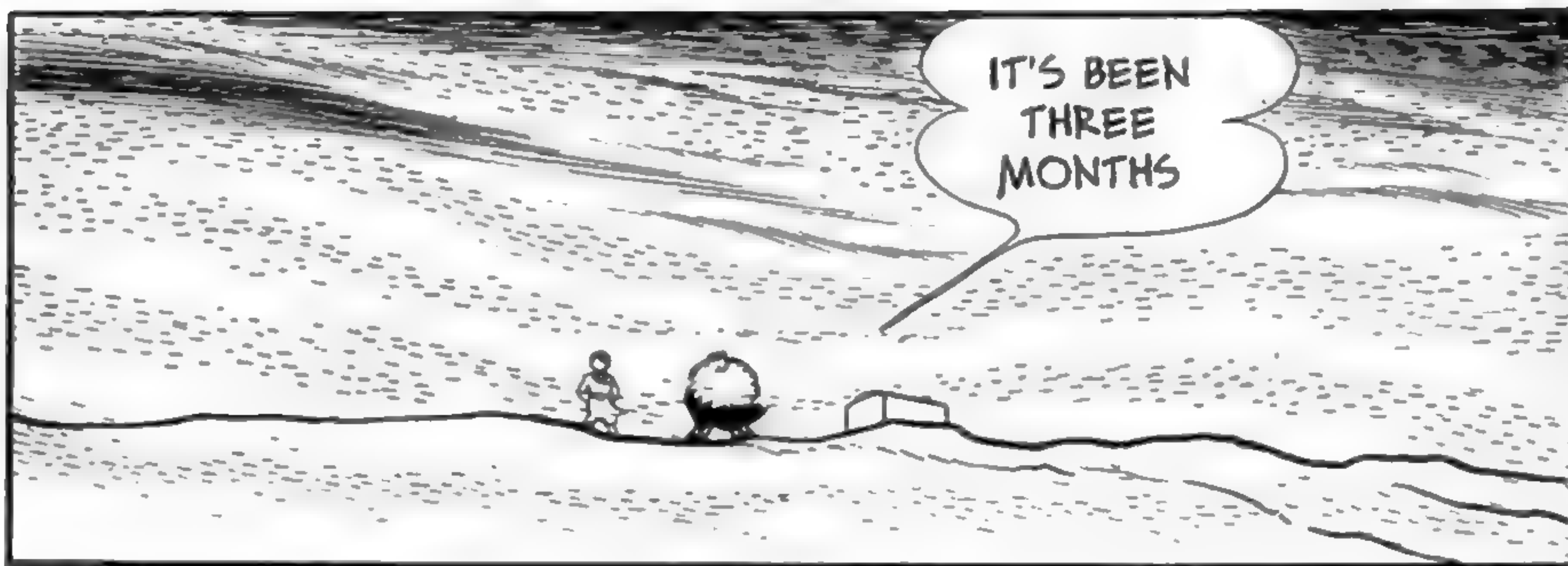

HE'S GONE
....
I'M SO SORRY


DAD!

CHAPTER 3
THE BIRTH OF BIG X

THE FOLLOWING YEAR...MARCH



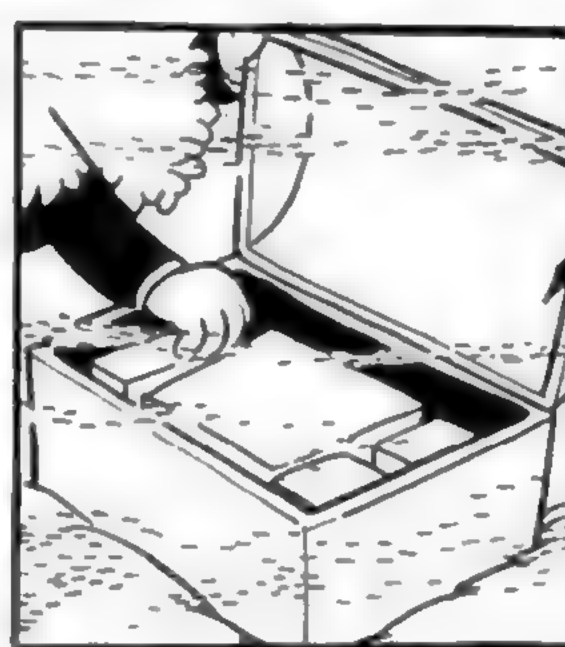

IT'S BEEN THREE MONTHS


TODAY YOU WILL BE TAKING ON THE BURDEN OF BIG X.


AS YOUR GUARDIAN AND PROTECTOR OF BIG X, WE'VE BEEN HIDING FROM THE EYES OF THE WORLD HERE IN SHIRETOKO

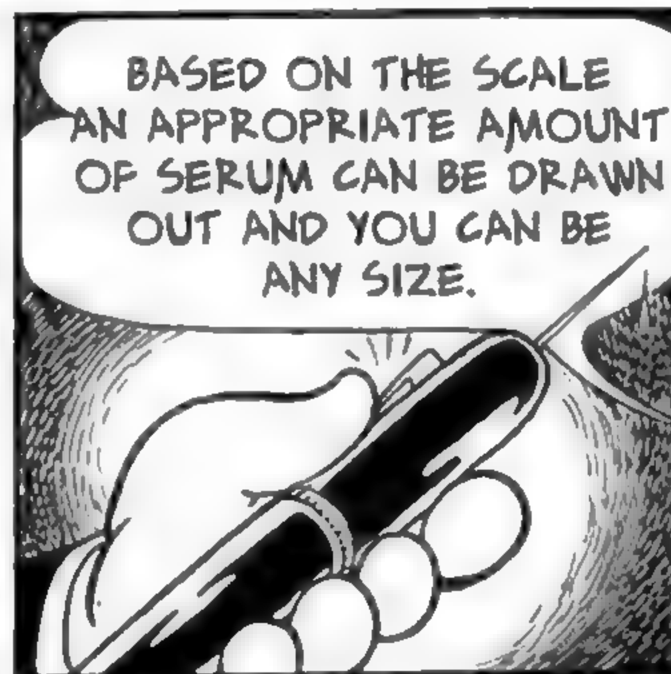

ALIGN THE SCALE ON THE NEEDLE


THIS IS THE BIG X INJECTOR

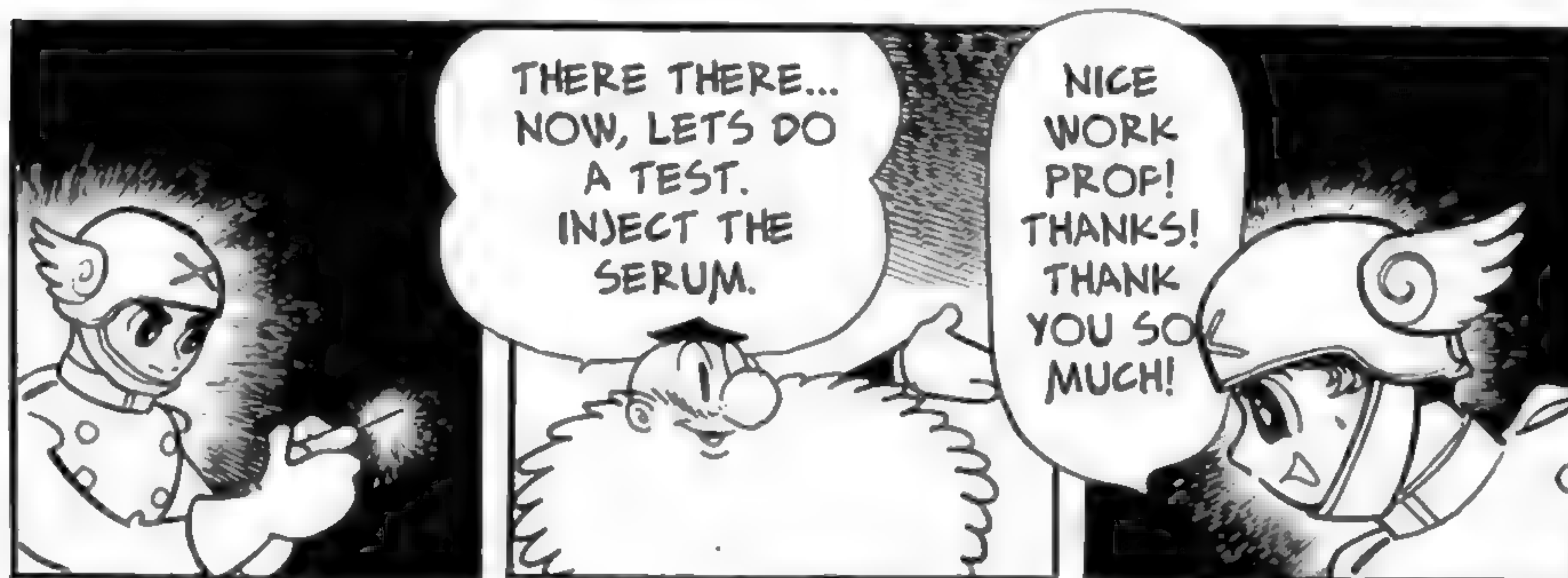


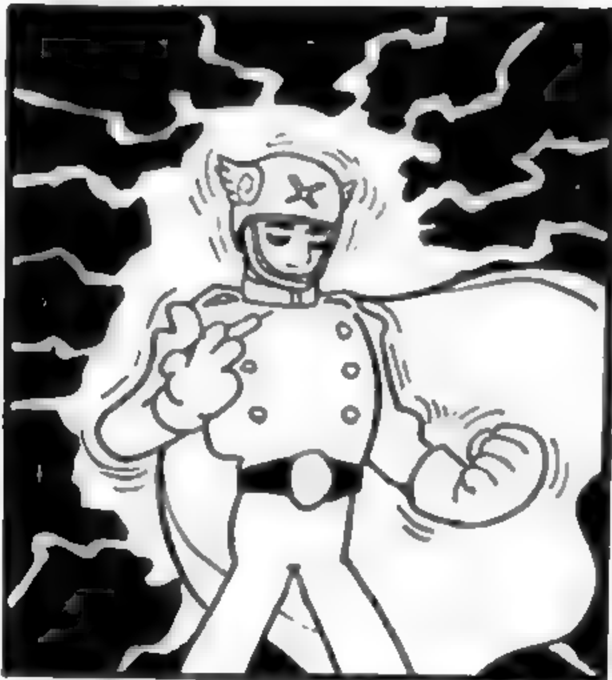

CLOTHES MADE OUT OF A SPECIAL RUBBER

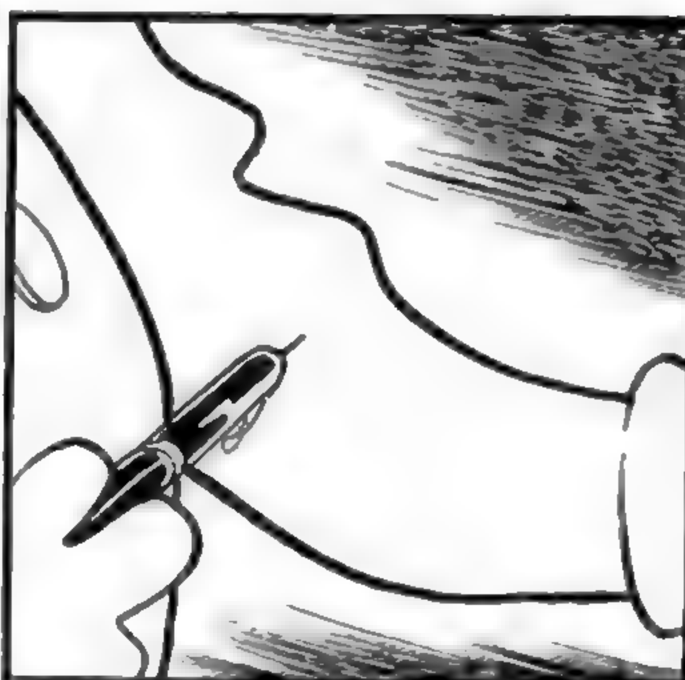

AND THIS IS ....


BASED ON THE SCALE AN APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF SERUM CAN BE DRAWN OUT AND YOU CAN BE ANY SIZE.

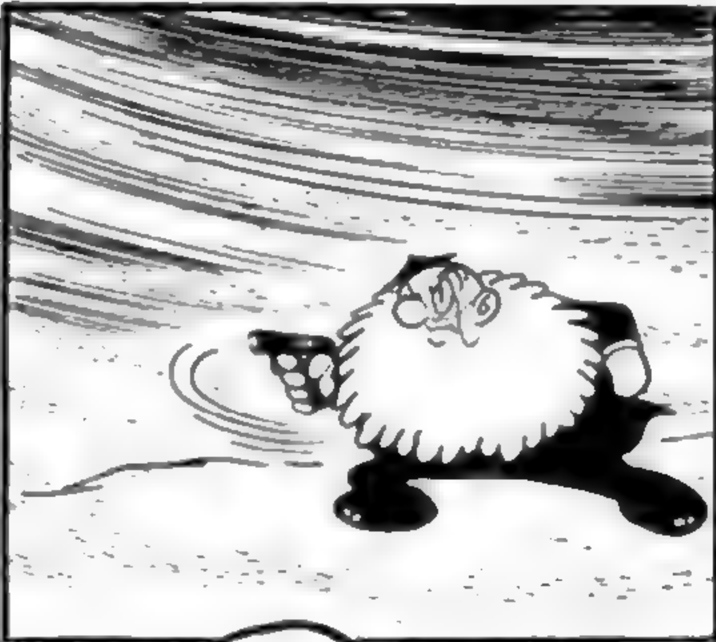
NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO OR HOW BIG YOU GET, YOUR CLOTHES WILL FIT YOU.
OOOOH IT LOOKS GOOD!





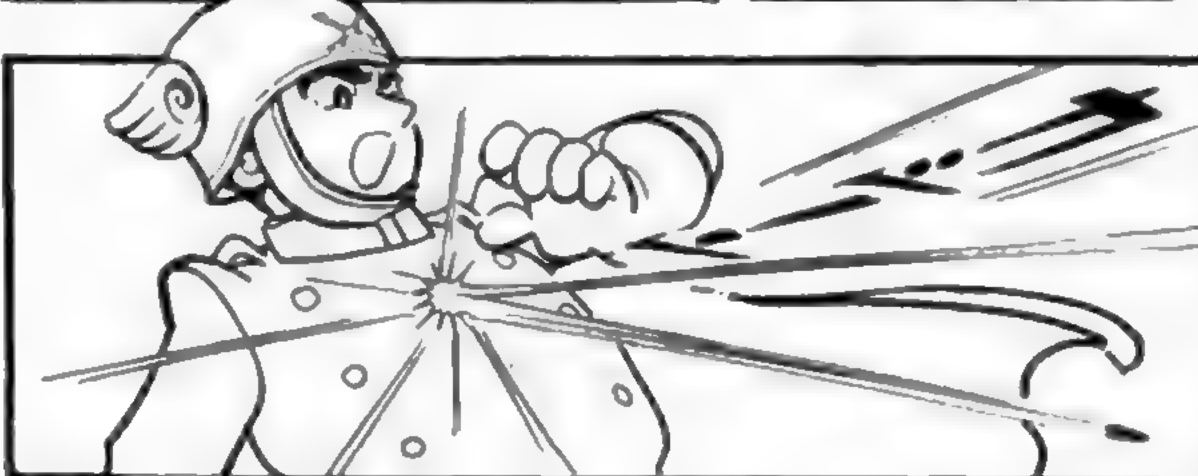


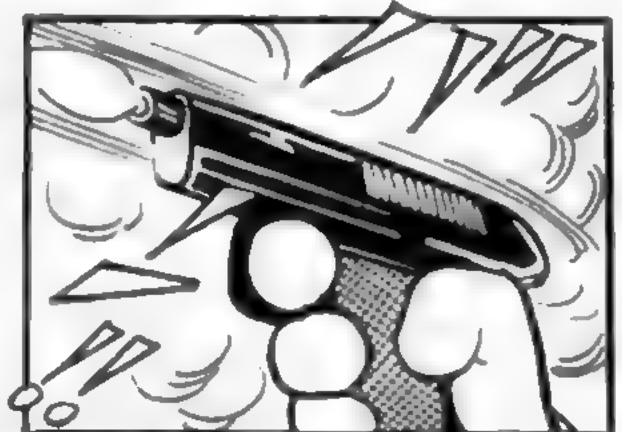

SCALE 2: YOU WON'T GROW BUT YOU'LL BE SUPER STRONG AND IMPERVIOUS
SCALE 3: YOU GROW TWICE AS BIG
SCALE 4: YOU ARE TEN TIMES BIGGER
SCALE 5: IS EVEN BIGGER THAN THAT





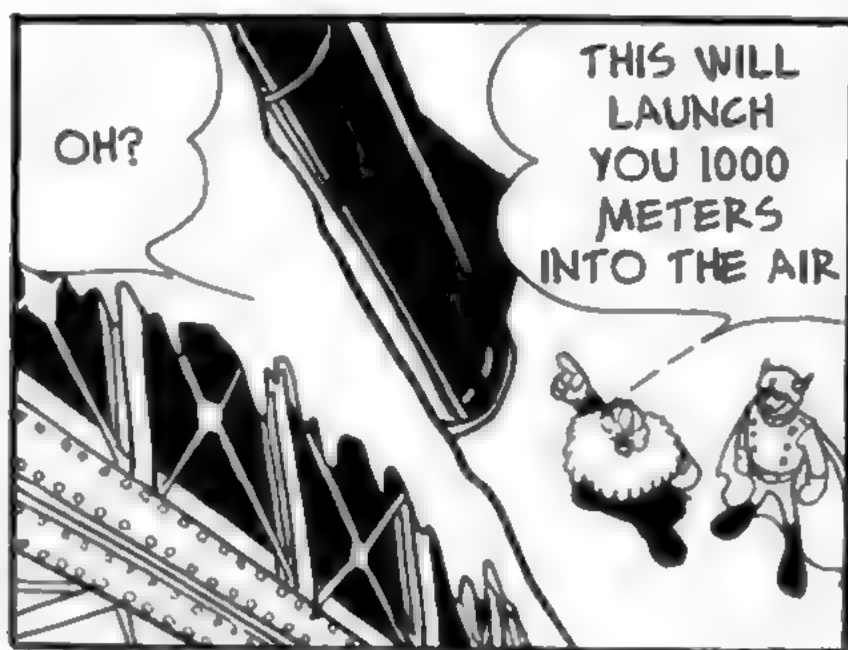


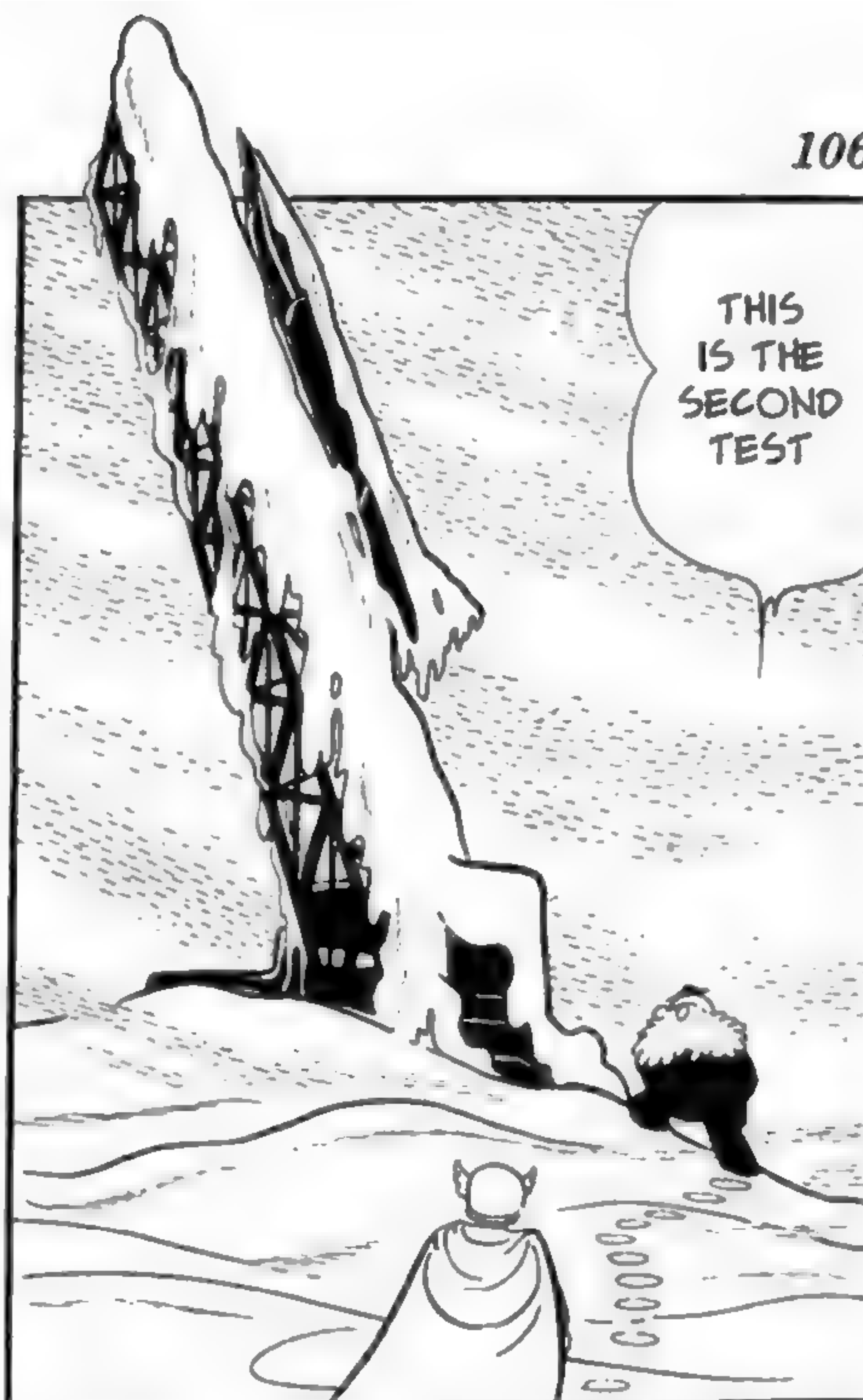


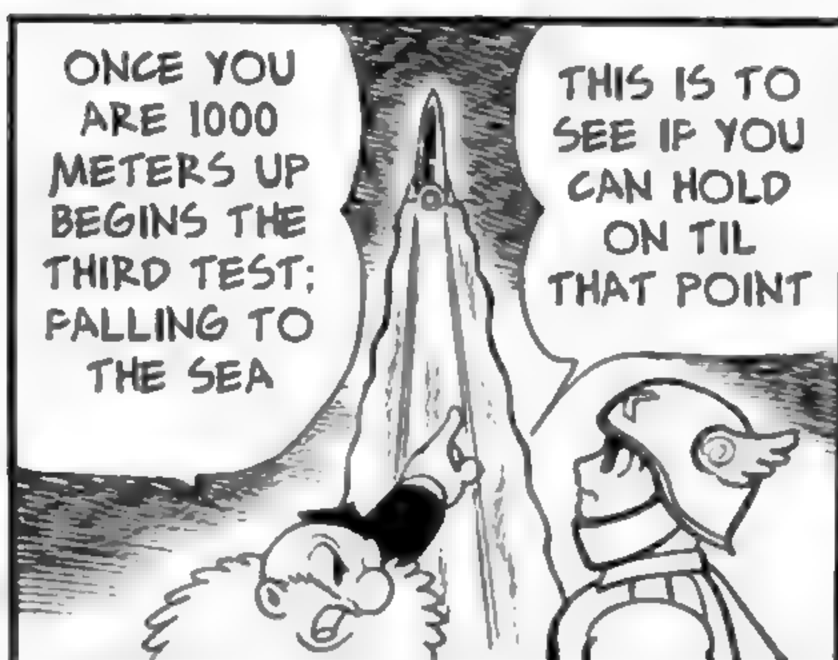


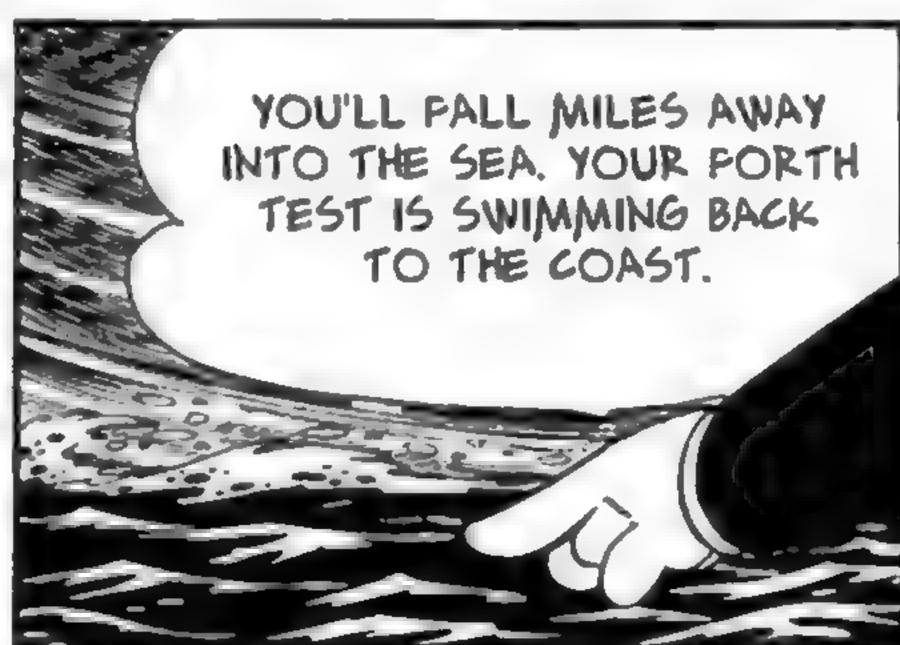

COME WITH ME


PROFESSOR HAVE YOU GONE CRAZY?
NO, NO. SO SORRY, BUT IT IS THE FIRST TEST

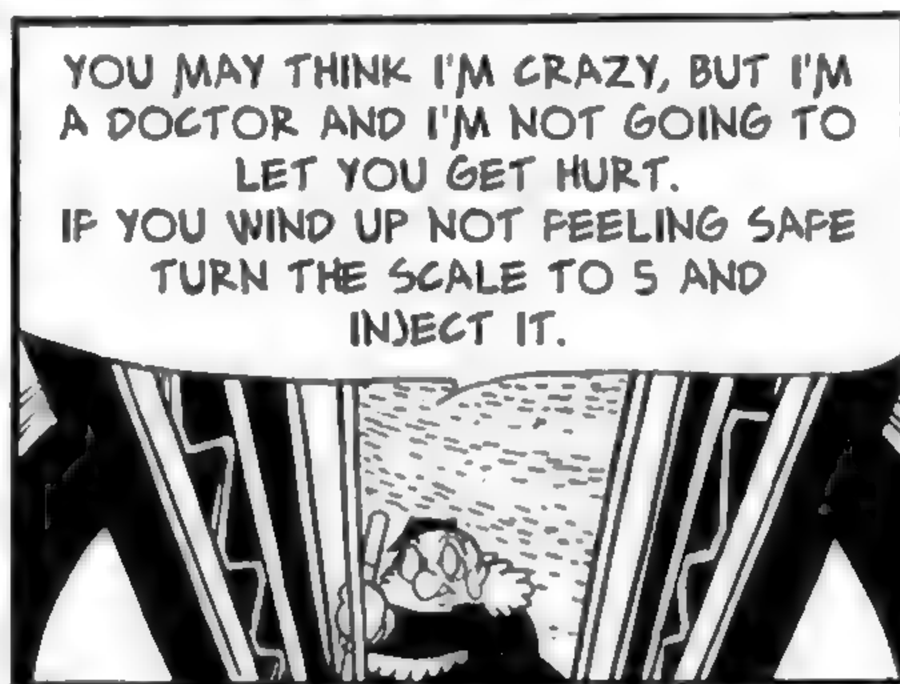

THIS WILL LAUNCH YOU 1000 METERS INTO THE AIR
OH?

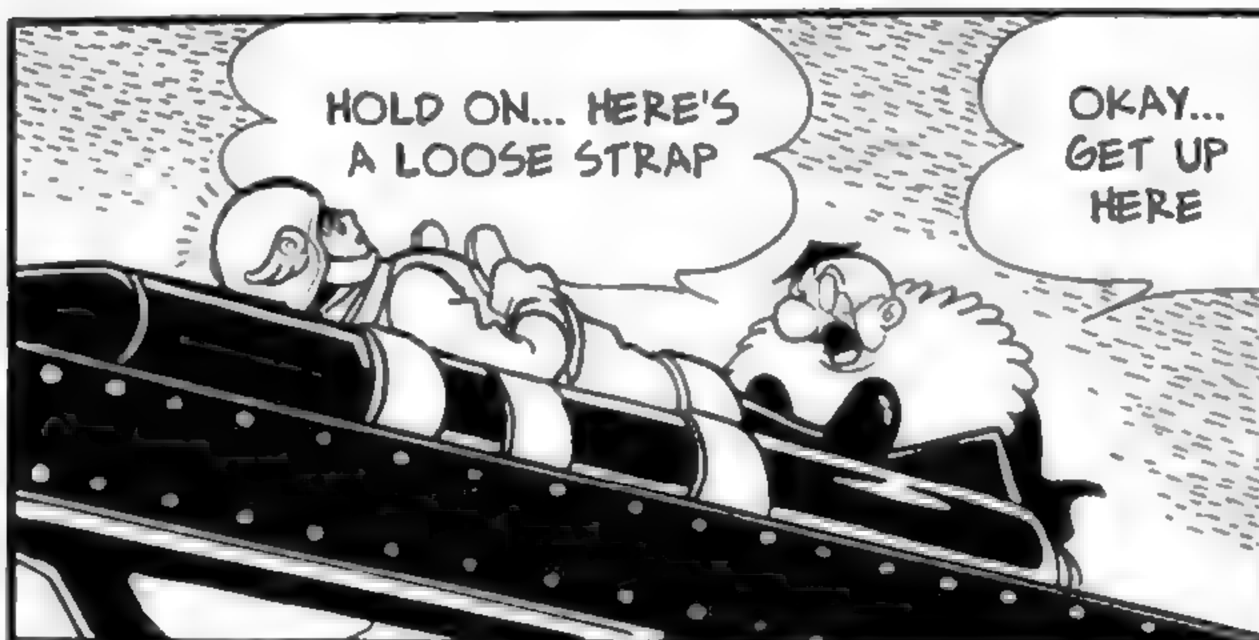

THIS IS THE SECOND TEST


THIS IS TO SEE IF YOU CAN HOLD ON TIL THAT POINT
ONCE YOU ARE 1000 METERS UP BEGINS THE THIRD TEST; FALLING TO THE SEA

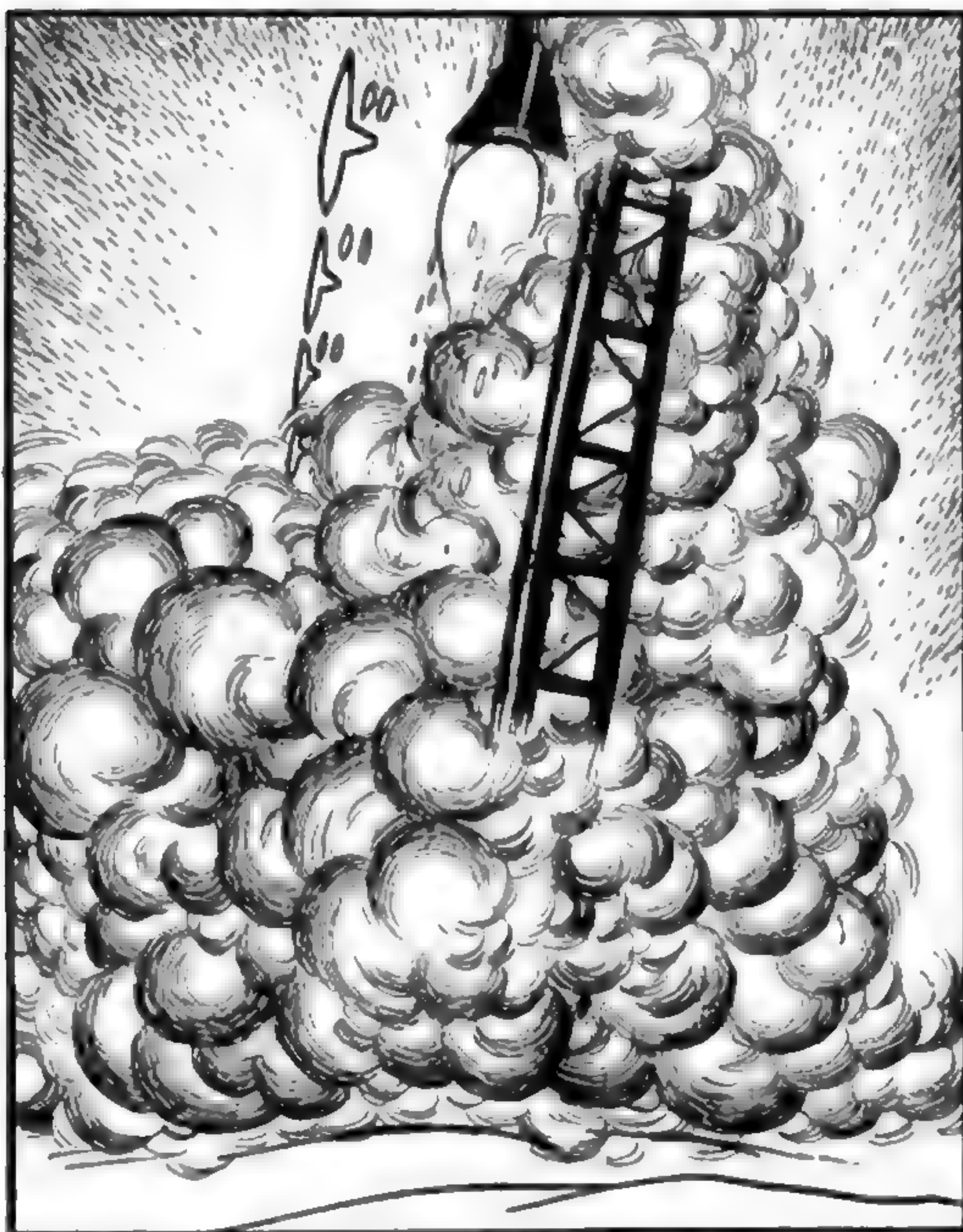

YOU'LL FALL MILES AWAY INTO THE SEA. YOUR FORTH TEST IS SWIMMING BACK TO THE COAST.


THEN YOU WILL GROW FIFTY-FOLD ALL AT ONCE. THERE WON'T BE ANY DANGER.

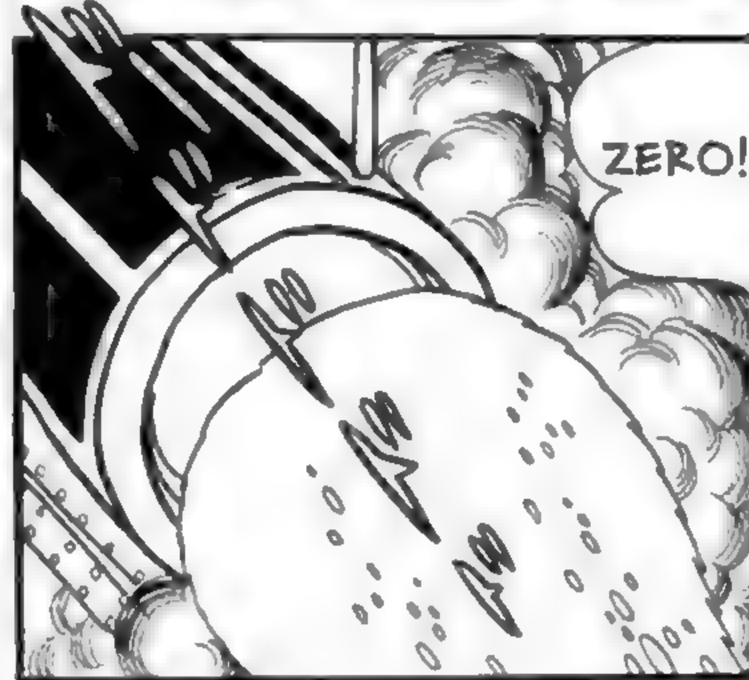

YOU MAY THINK I'M CRAZY, BUT I'M A DOCTOR AND I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU GET HURT.
IF YOU WIND UP NOT FEELING SAFE TURN THE SCALE TO 5 AND INJECT IT.

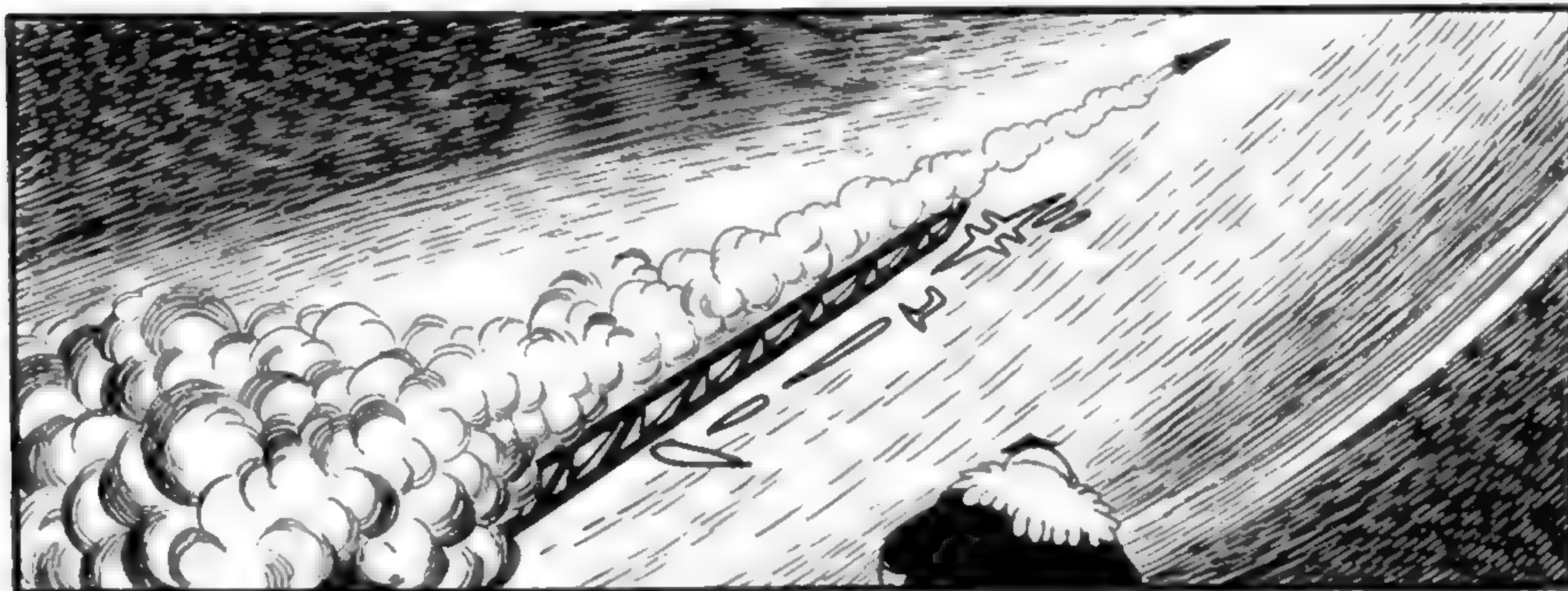

HOLD ON... HERE'S A LOOSE STRAP
OKAY... GET UP HERE

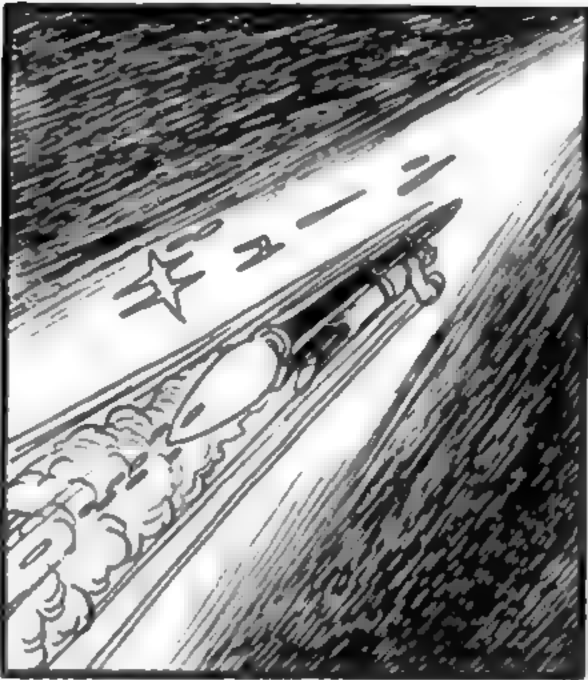

GOTCHA! I'LL DO THE TEST!



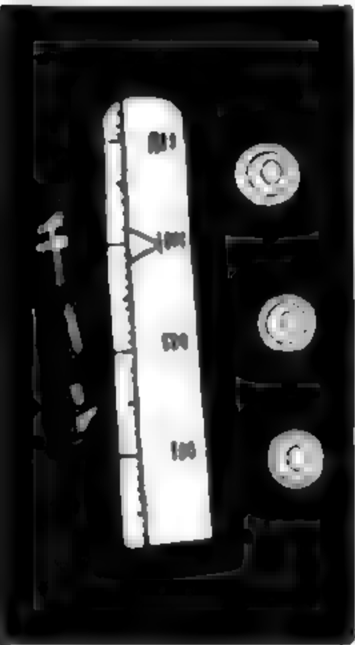

WE'RE GOOD! LET'S LAUNCH. 3... 2... 1...

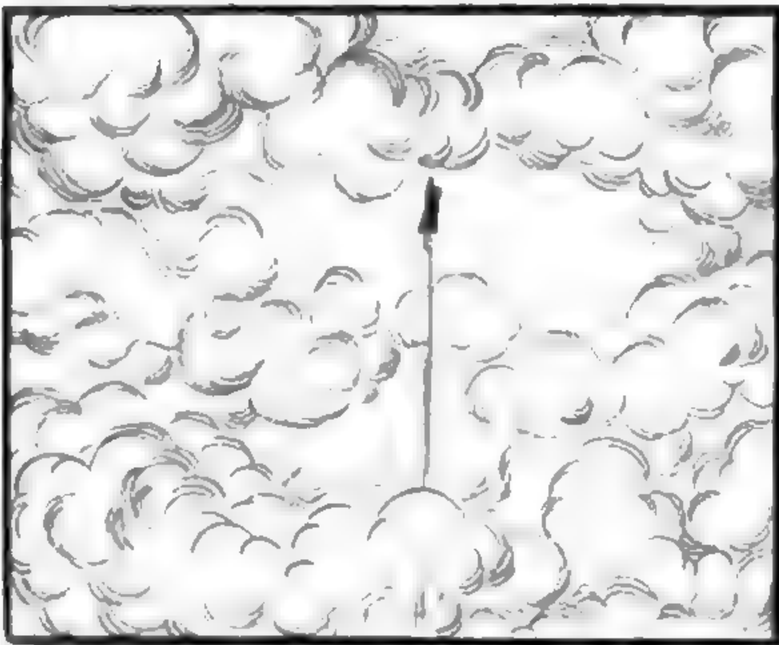

ZERO!

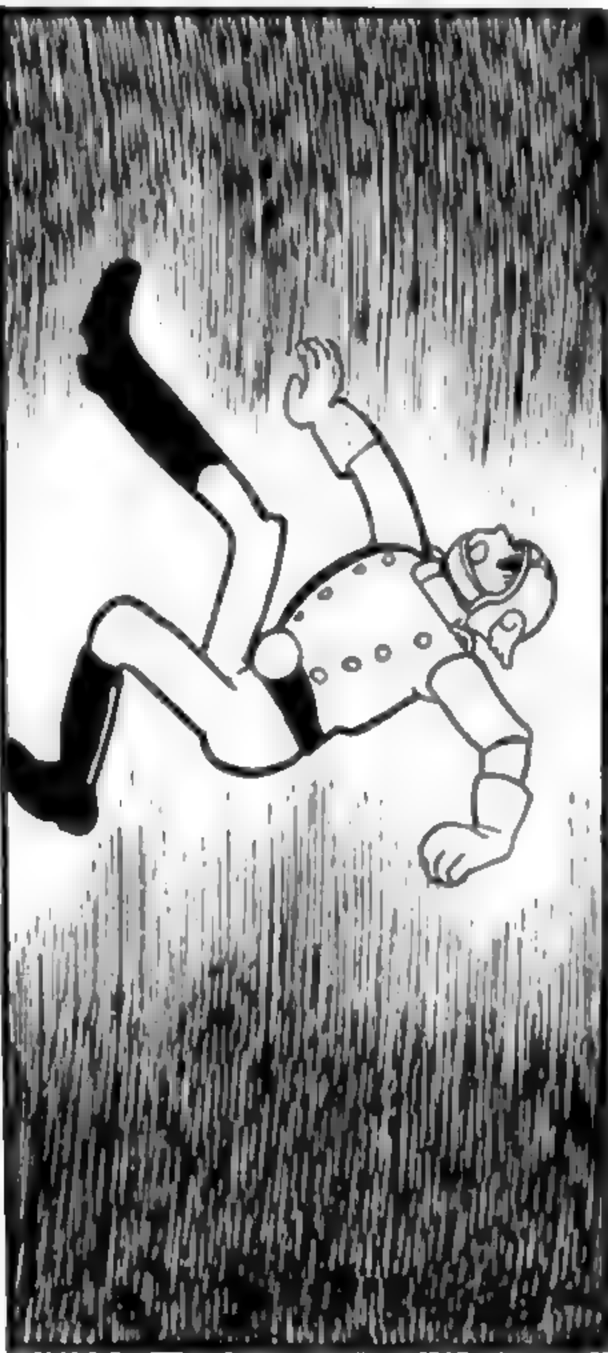


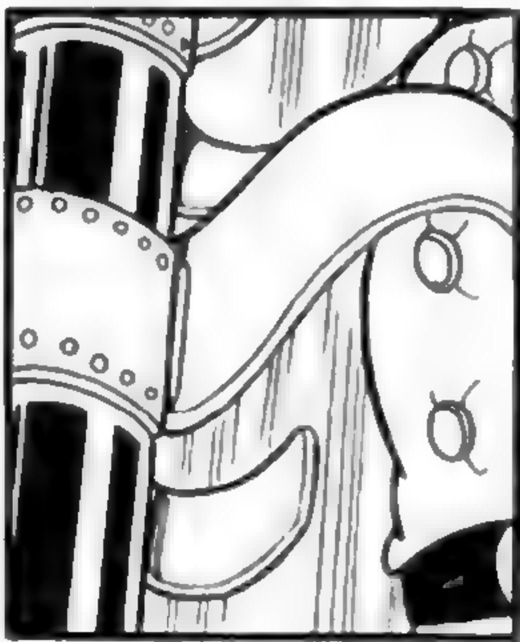

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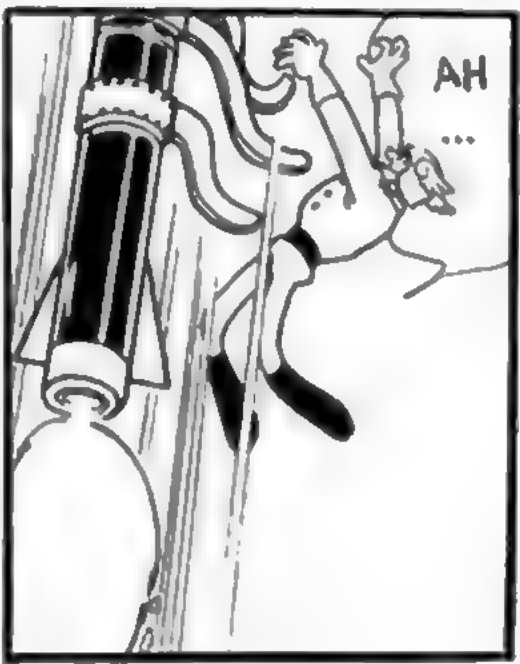


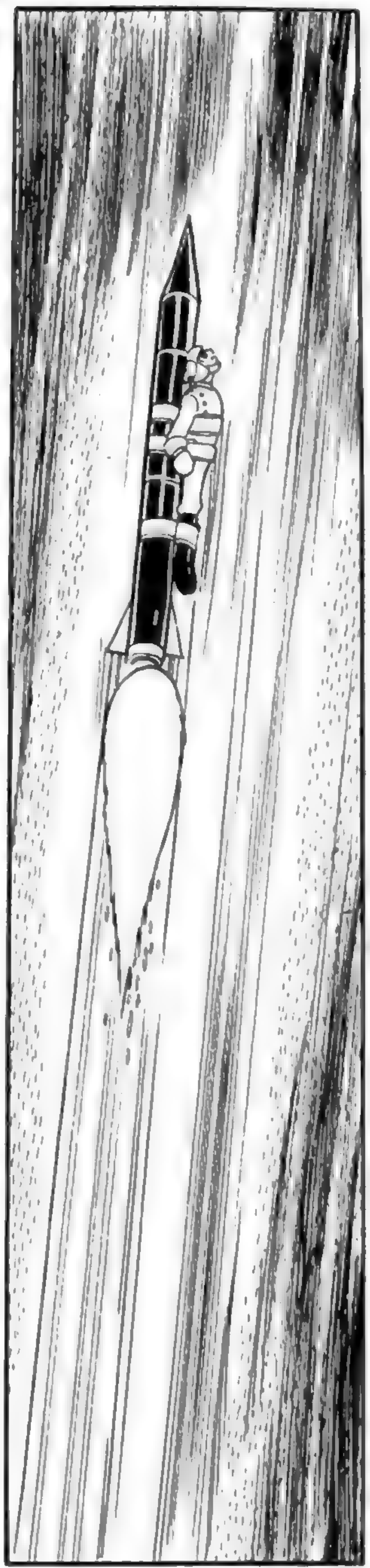

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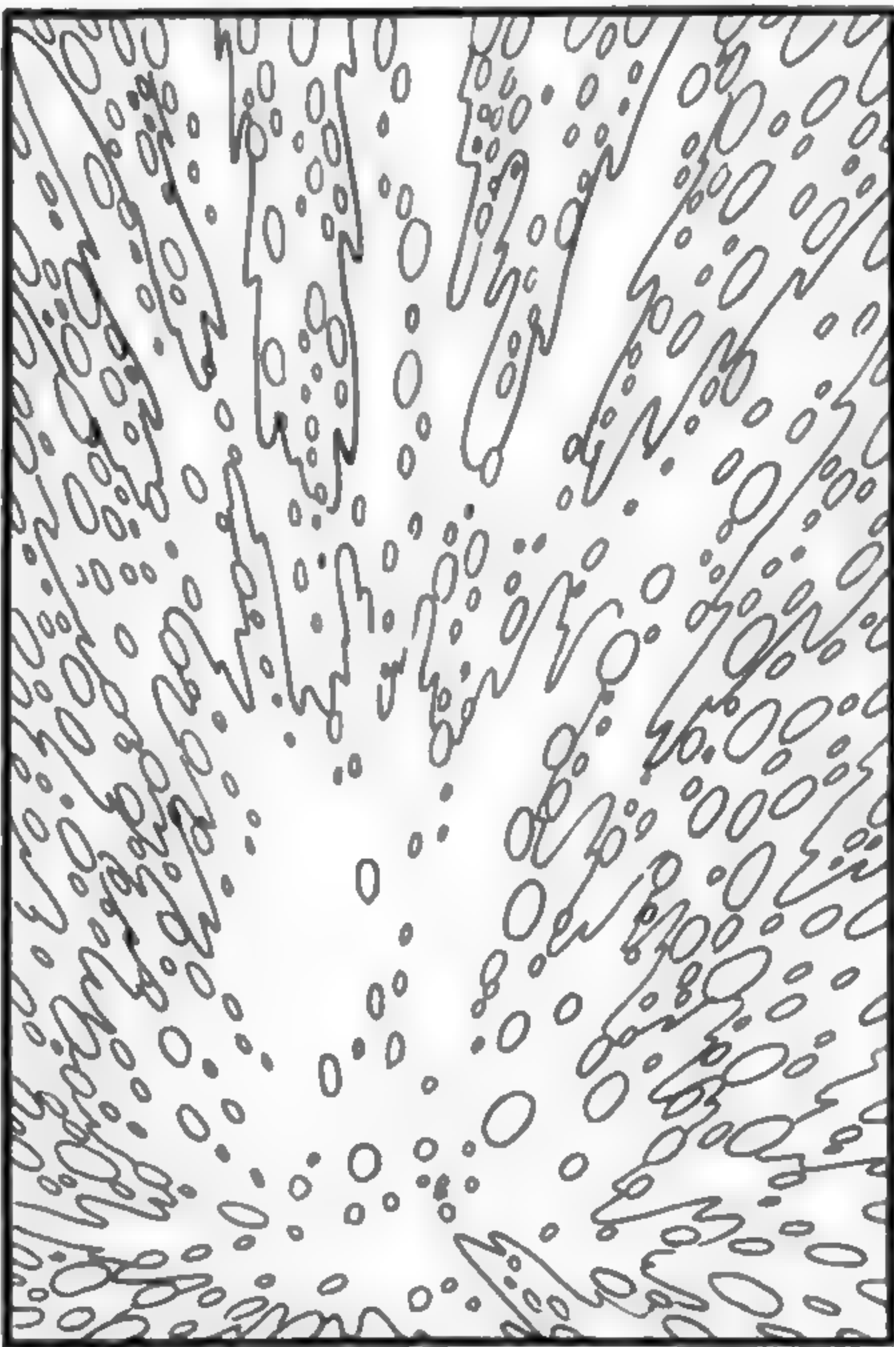


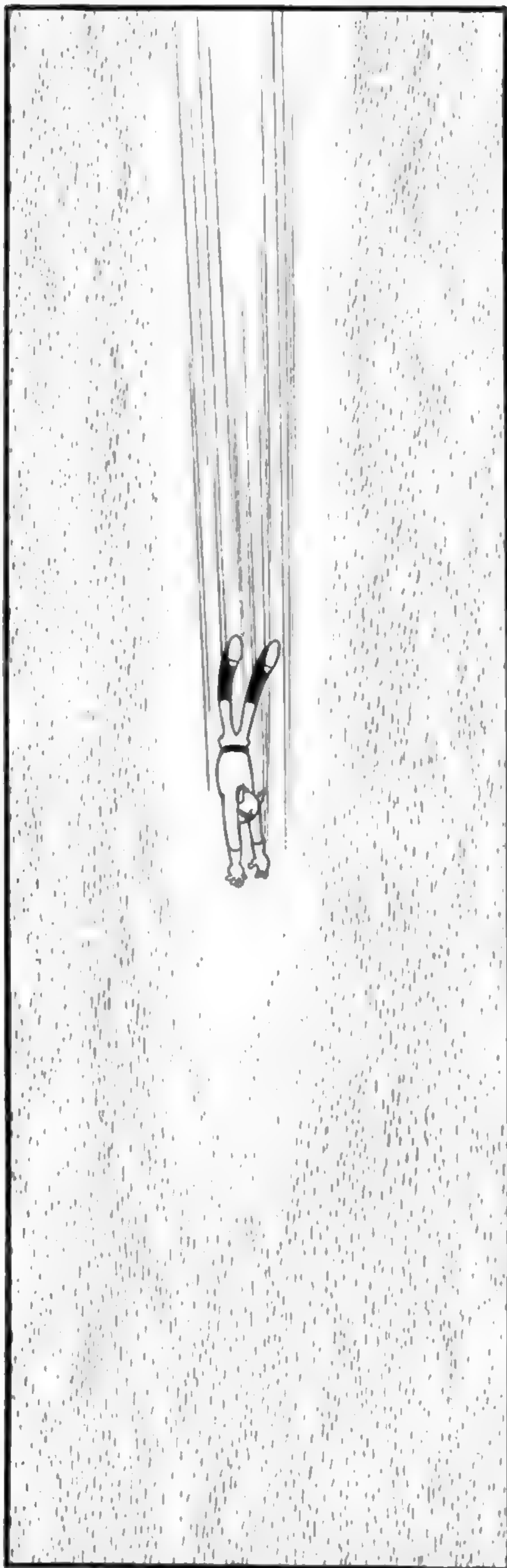

AH
...



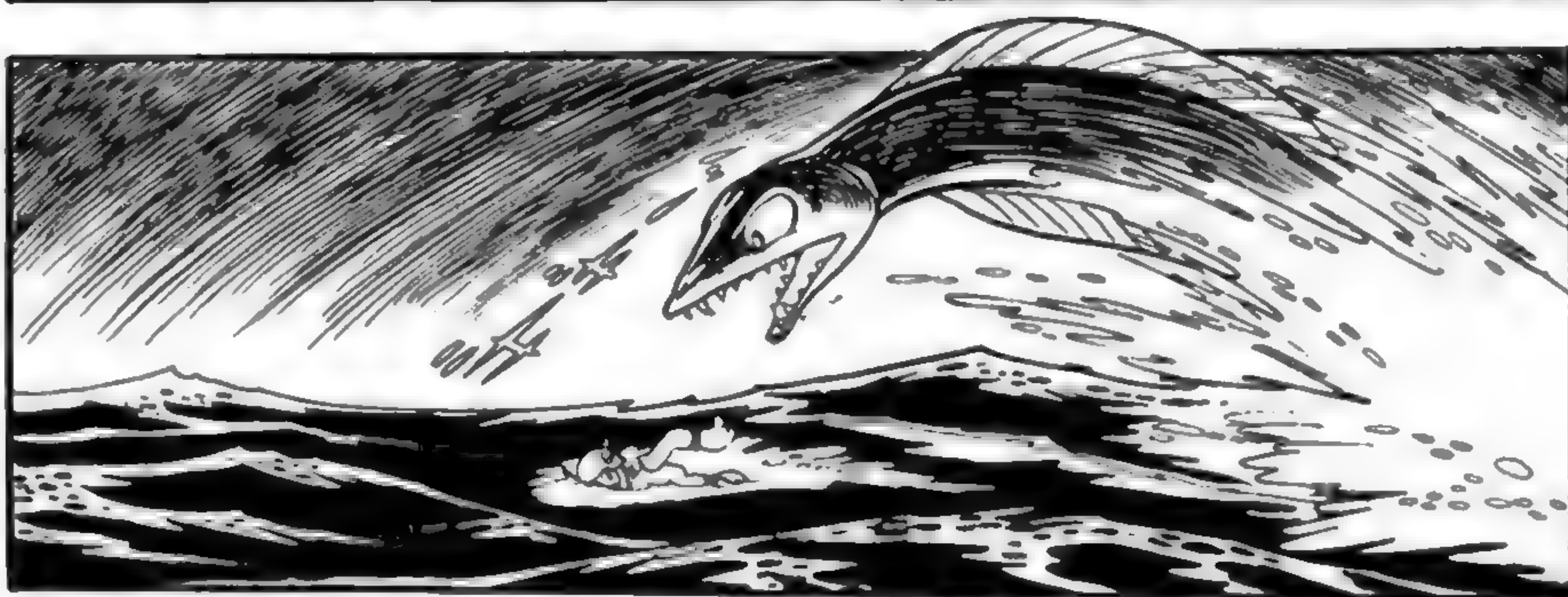


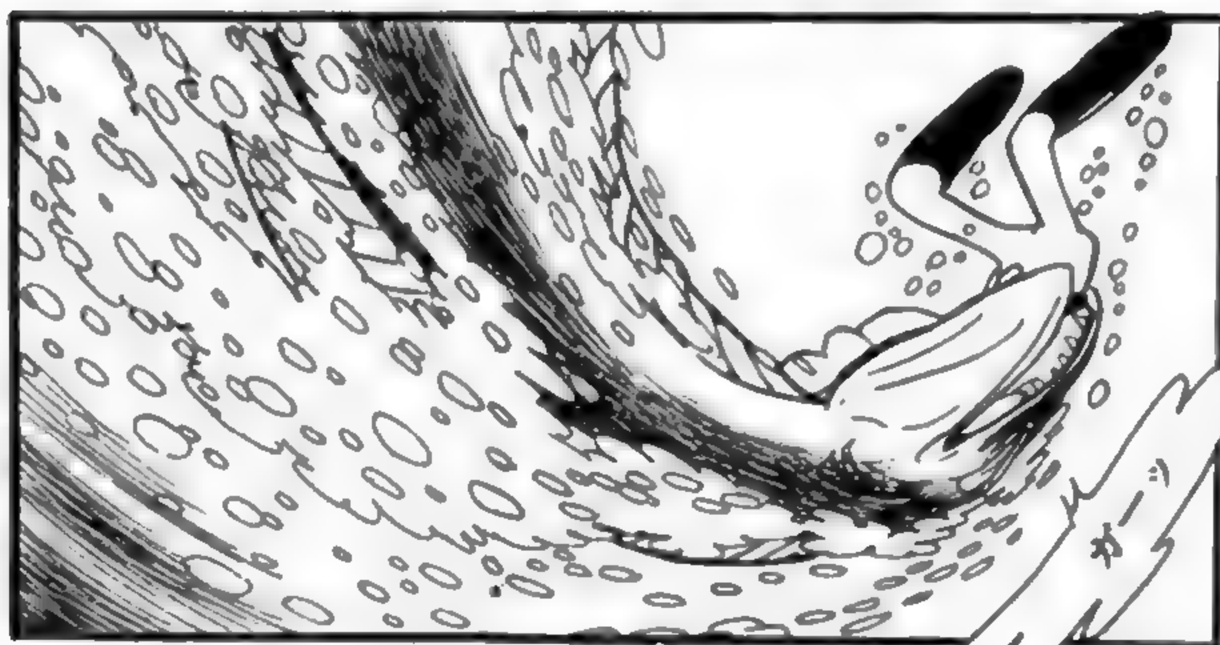


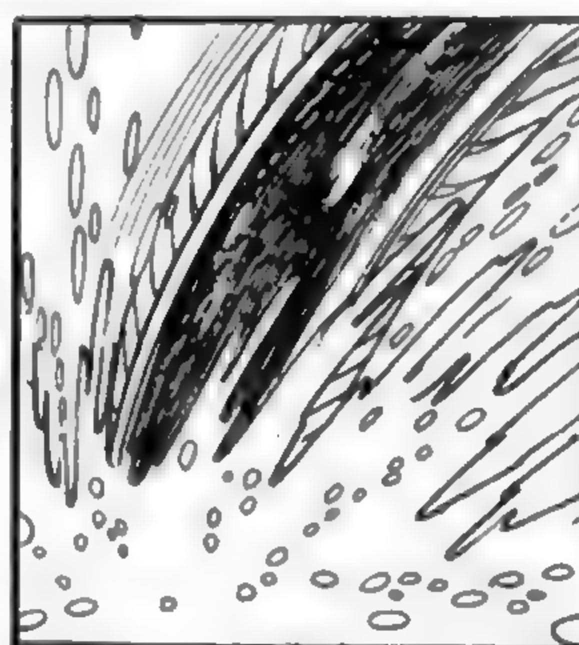


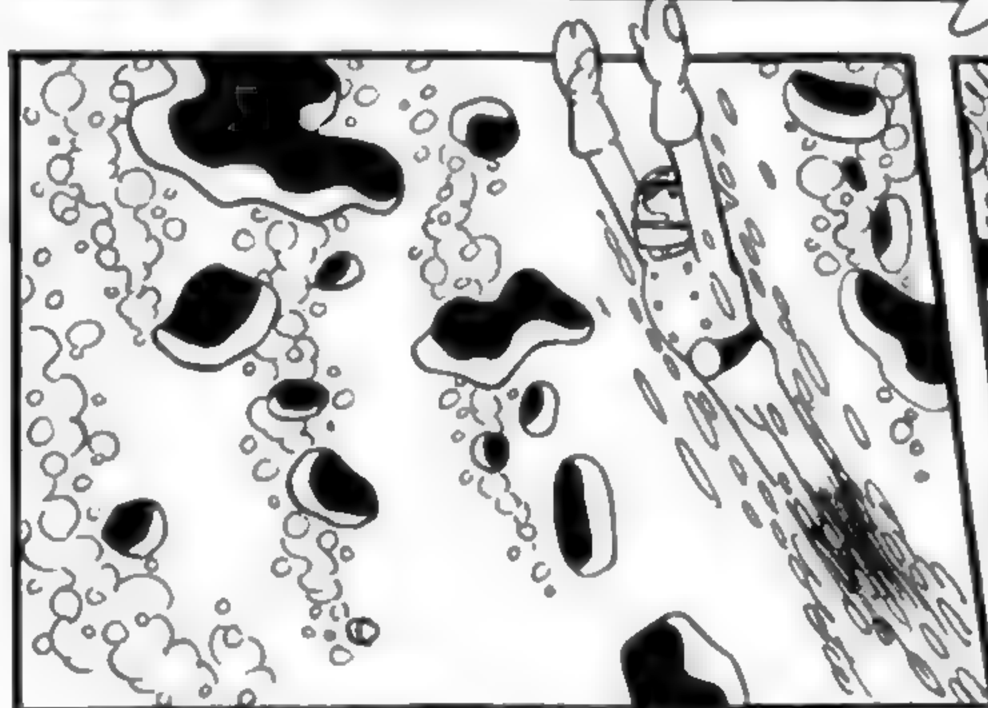


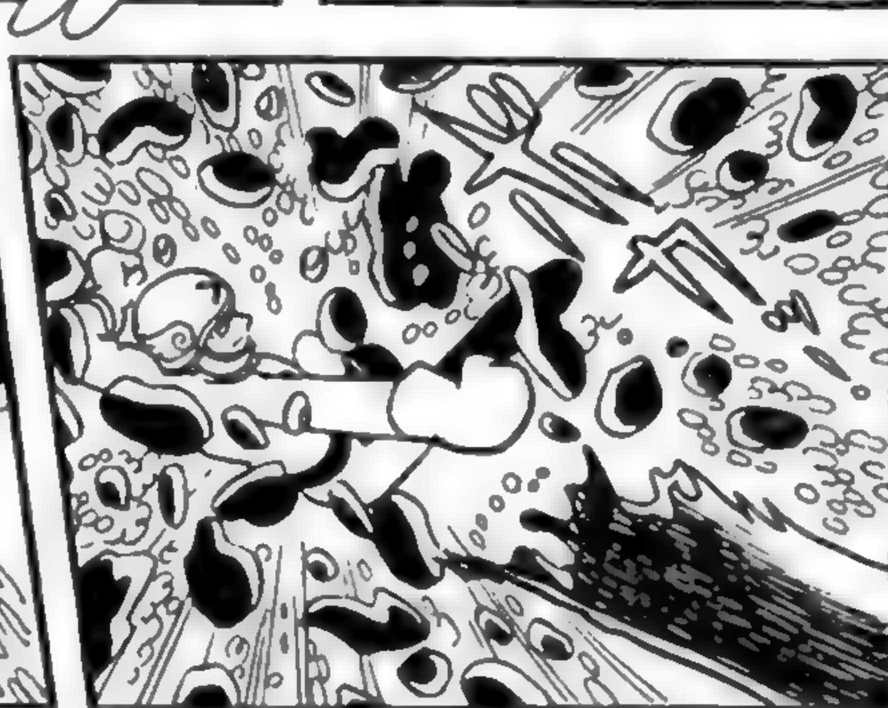

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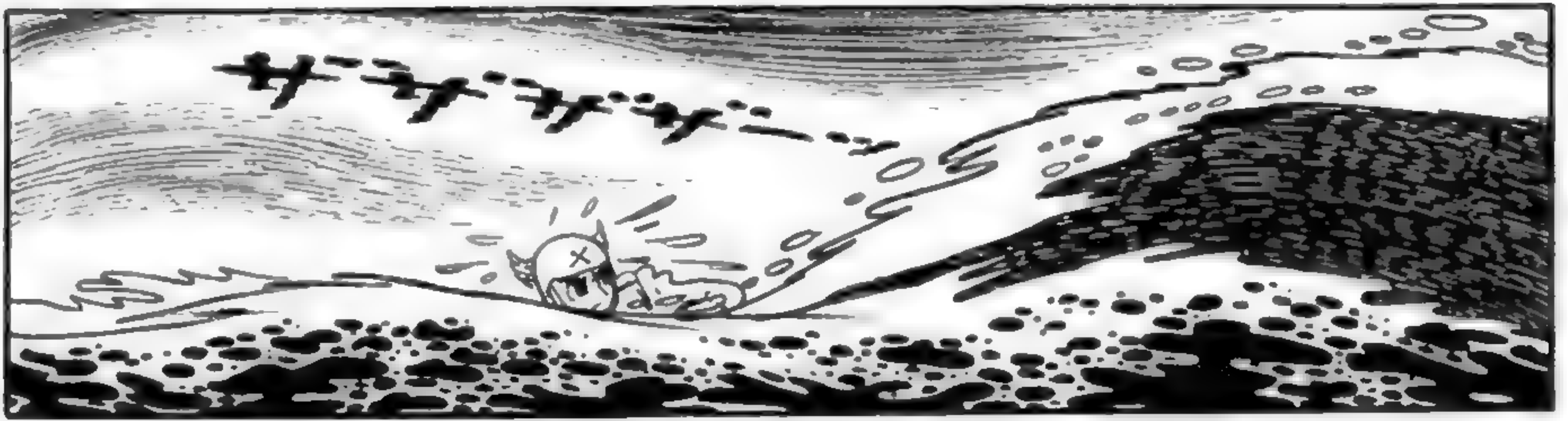


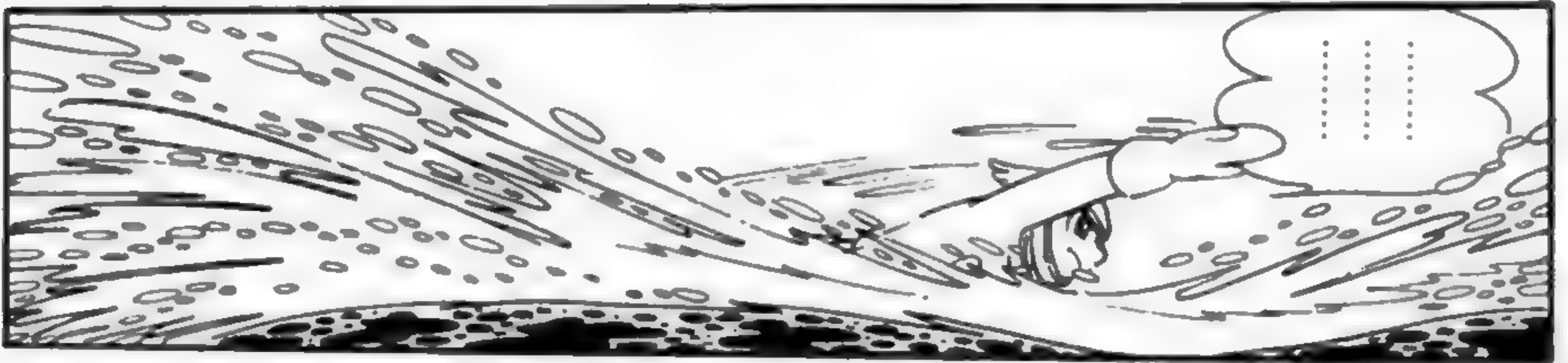

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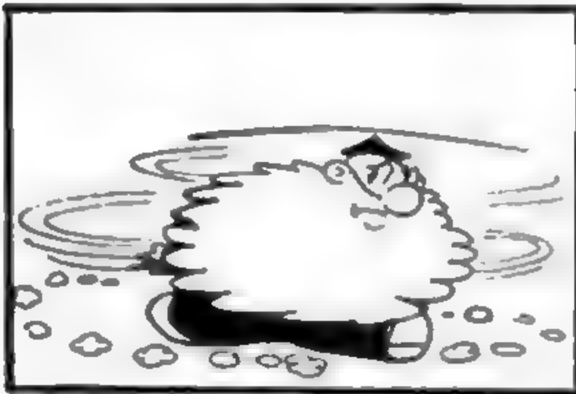



















I CAN'T STAND THE SUSPENSE

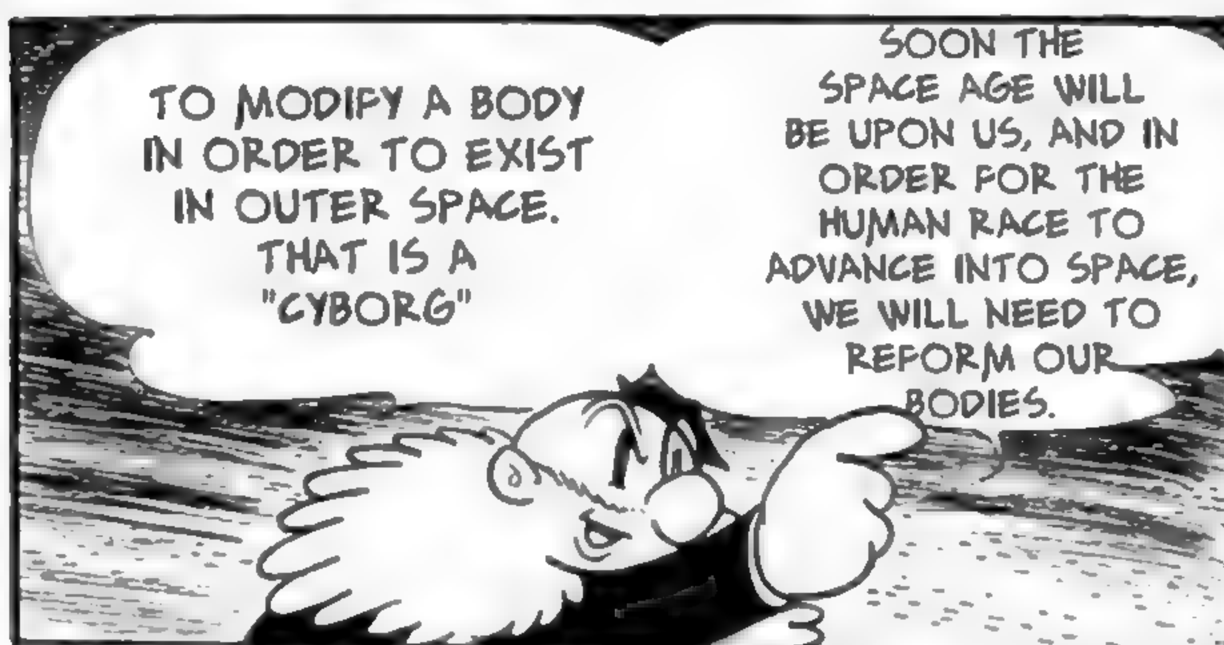

THAT WAS QUITE FAST


AKIRA! HEY! OVER HERE!
AH HA!

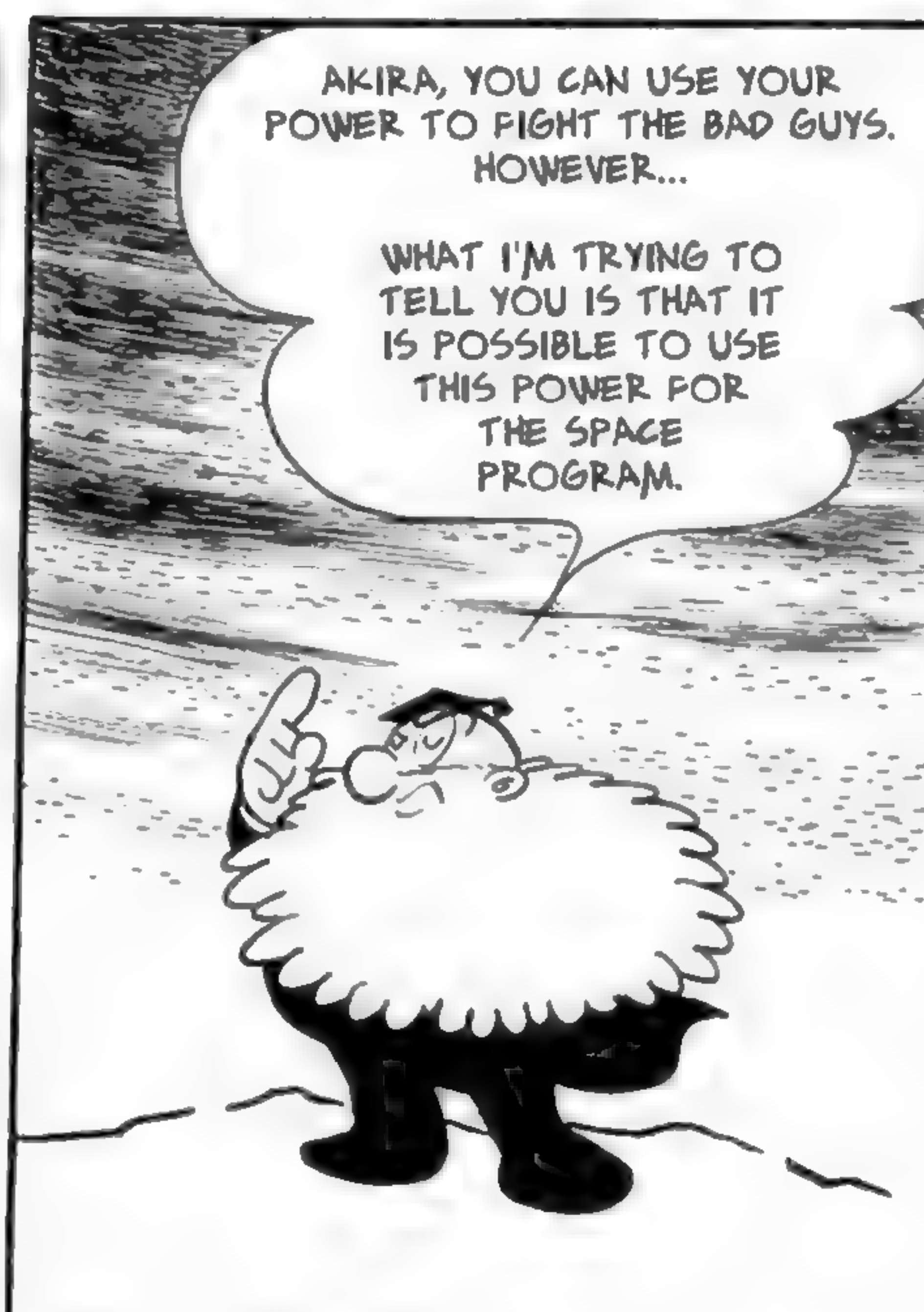


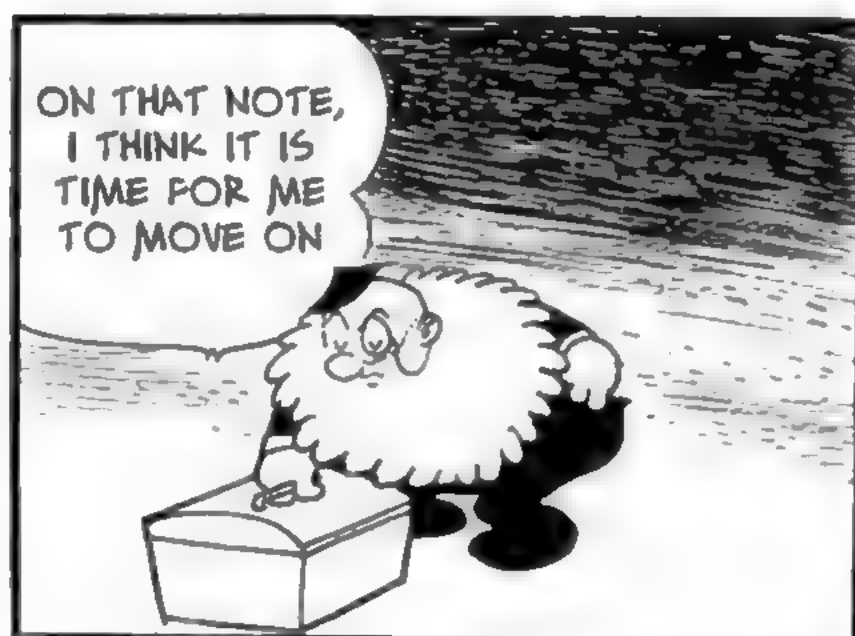

GOOD, GOOD! YOU ARE A GREAT CYBORG!
YES! NOTHING TO IT!


I WAS GETTING A LITTLE FLUSTERED
DID IT GO WELL?

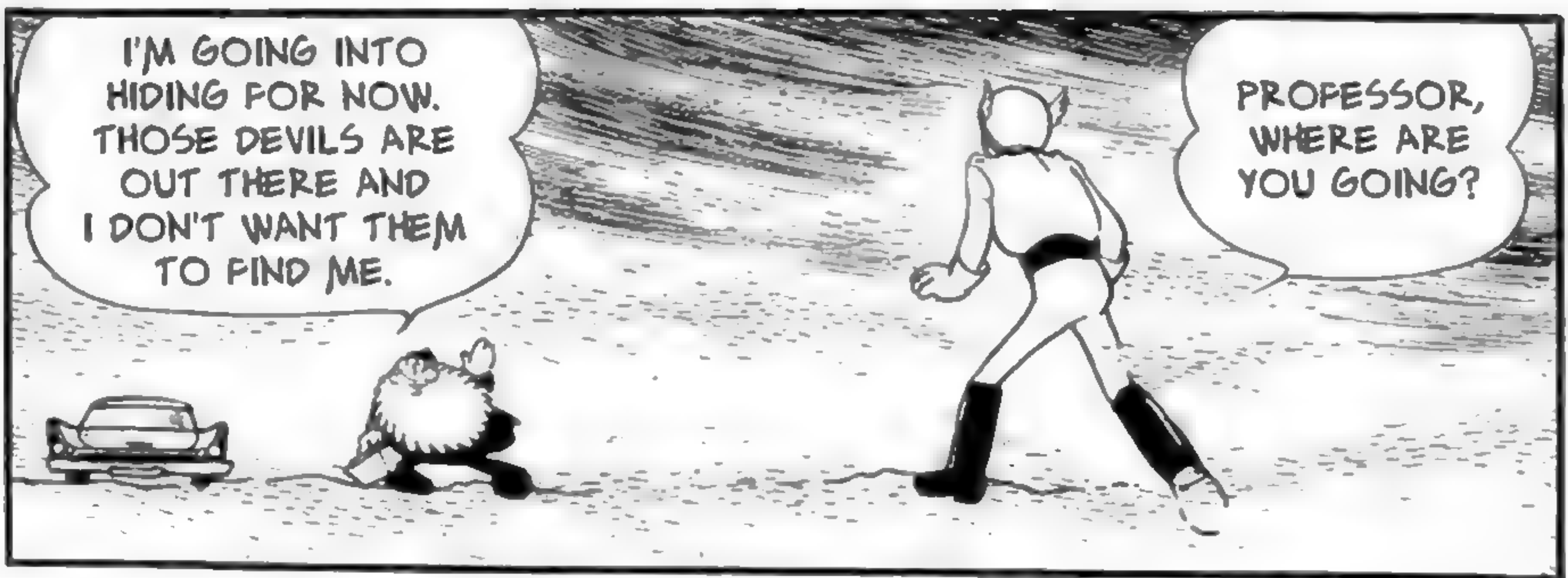

SOON THE SPACE AGE WILL BE UPON US, AND IN ORDER FOR THE HUMAN RACE TO ADVANCE INTO SPACE, WE WILL NEED TO REFORM OUR BODIES.
TO MODIFY A BODY IN ORDER TO EXIST IN OUTER SPACE. THAT IS A "CYBORG"

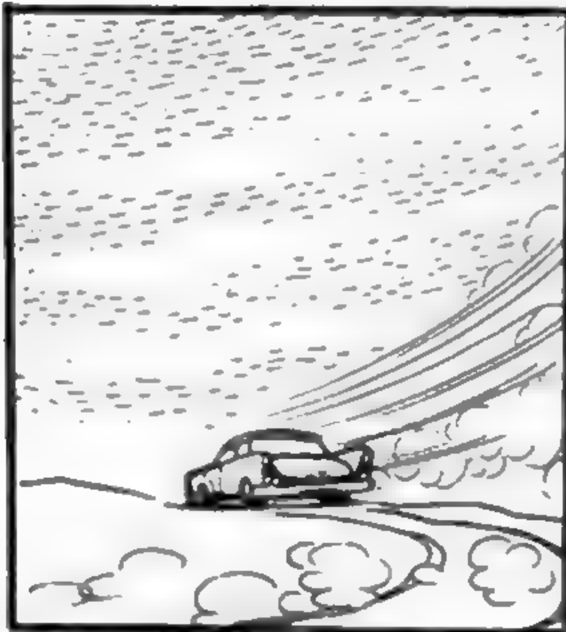

WHAT EXACTLY IS A CYBORG?


AKIRA, YOU CAN USE YOUR POWER TO FIGHT THE BAD GUYS. HOWEVER...
WHAT I'M TRYING TO TELL YOU IS THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO USE THIS POWER FOR THE SPACE PROGRAM.


ON THAT NOTE, I THINK IT IS TIME FOR ME TO MOVE ON


GOODBYE AKIRA. YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT NOW.


PROFESSOR, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I'M GOING INTO HIDING FOR NOW. THOSE DEVILS ARE OUT THERE AND I DON'T WANT THEM TO FIND ME.




I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST AKIRA, AND GIVE MY BEST TO YOUR MOM.


PROF!


WITH THIS A HUMAN CAN BECOME A DEMON OR A SUPERHUMAN. MY MISSION IS TO PROTECT IT AND USE IT IN THE NAME OF JUSTICE.


THIS IS GOD'S GIFT TO ME


DAD, PLEASE HEAR ME. I'LL FIGHT THE WORLD'S ENEMIES. I'LL LOOK AFTER THE WORLD. PLEASE LOOK AFTER ME.

AROUND THE SAME TIME...
FRANKFURT, WEST GERMANY

FRANK-FULT BAHNHOFF

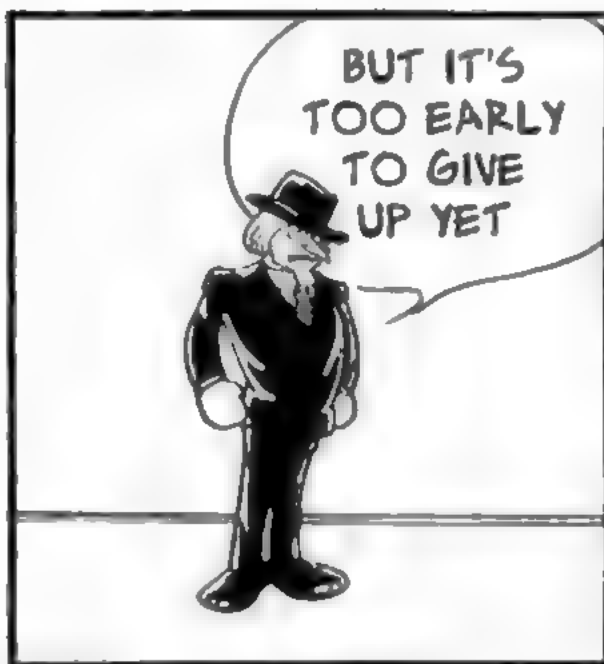
RALTS

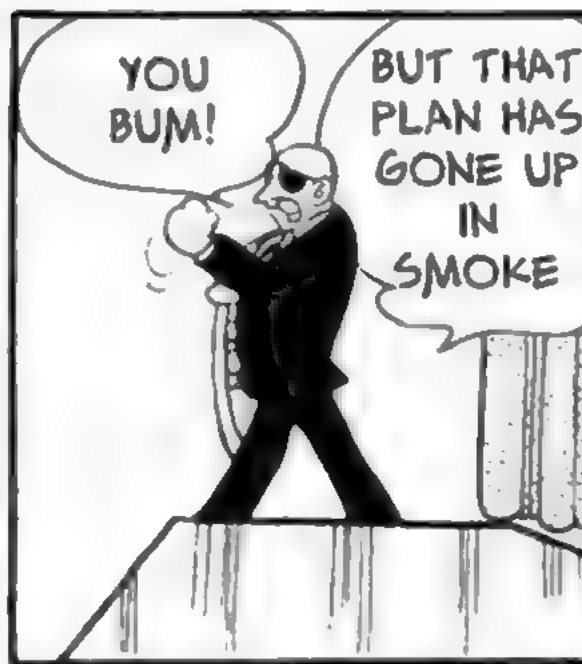








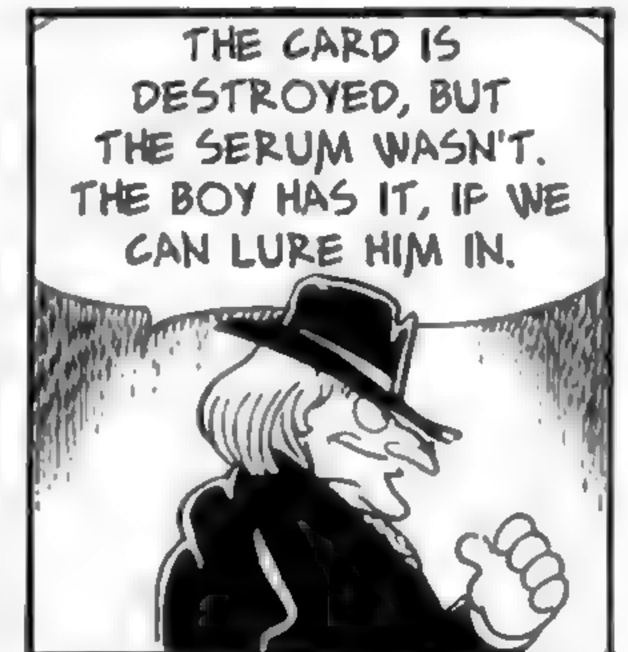

BUT IT'S TOO EARLY TO GIVE UP YET

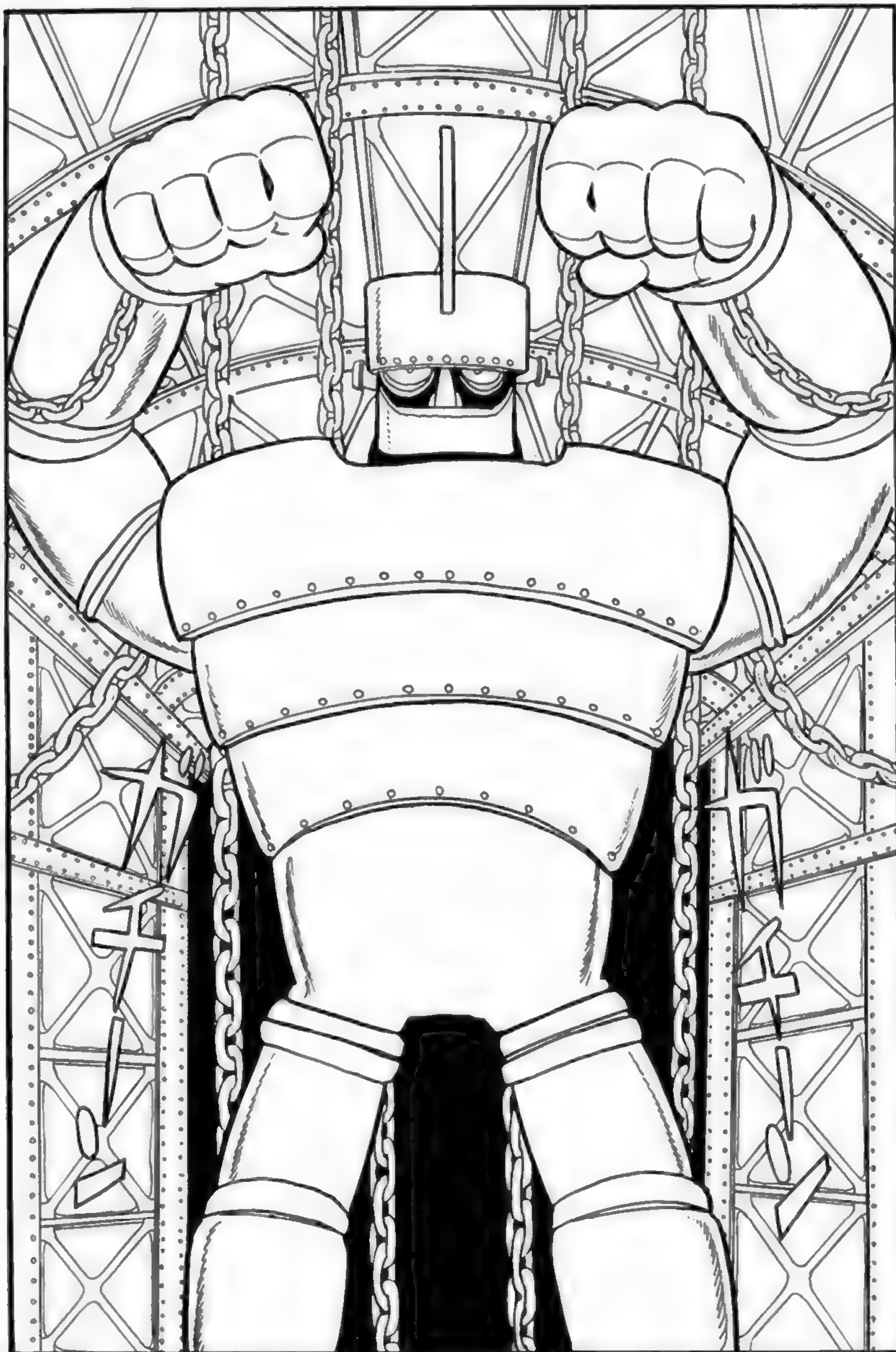

YOU BUM!
BUT THAT PLAN HAS GONE UP IN SMOKE

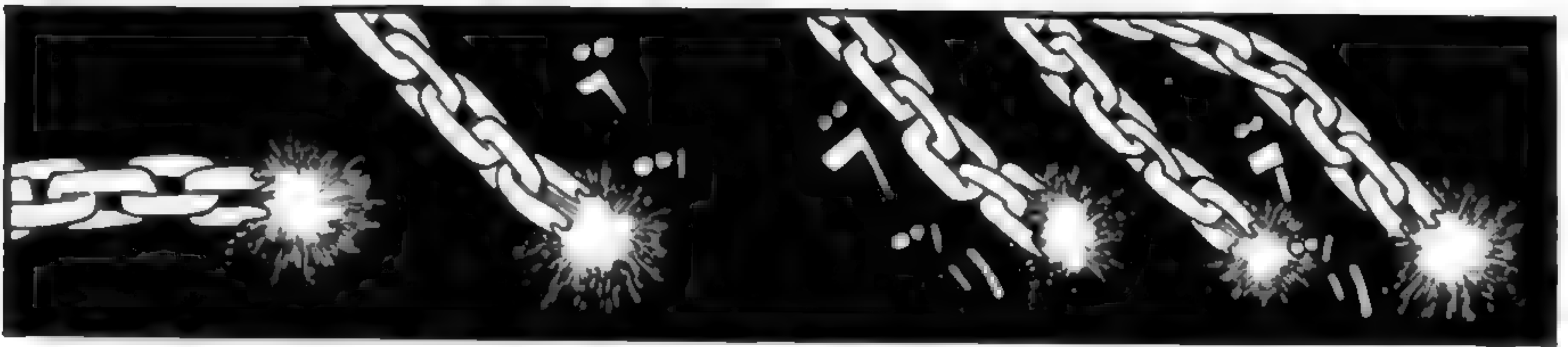

WE TRIED TO GET BIG X BACK INTO THE HANDS OF THE NAZIS. MANY DIED IN THE ATTEMPT!

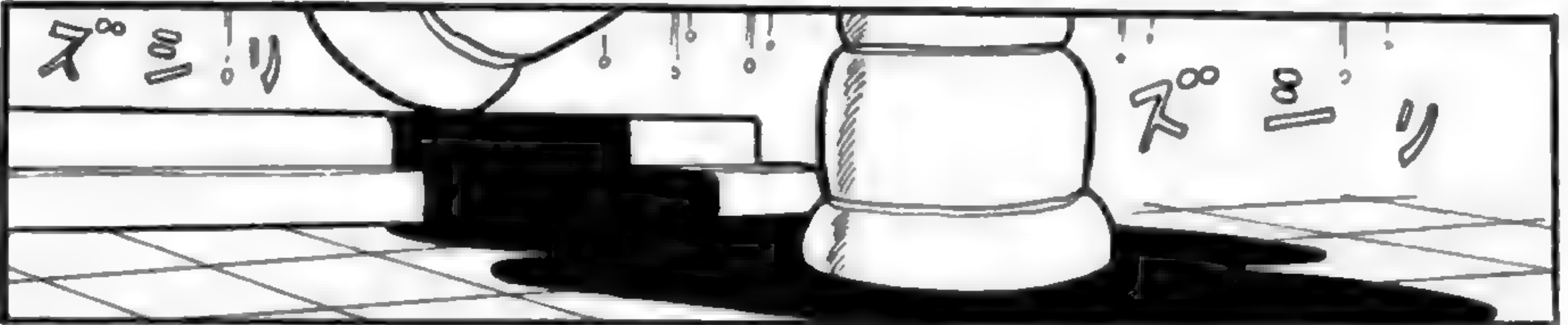

HMM... I SEE! NUMBER V-3!

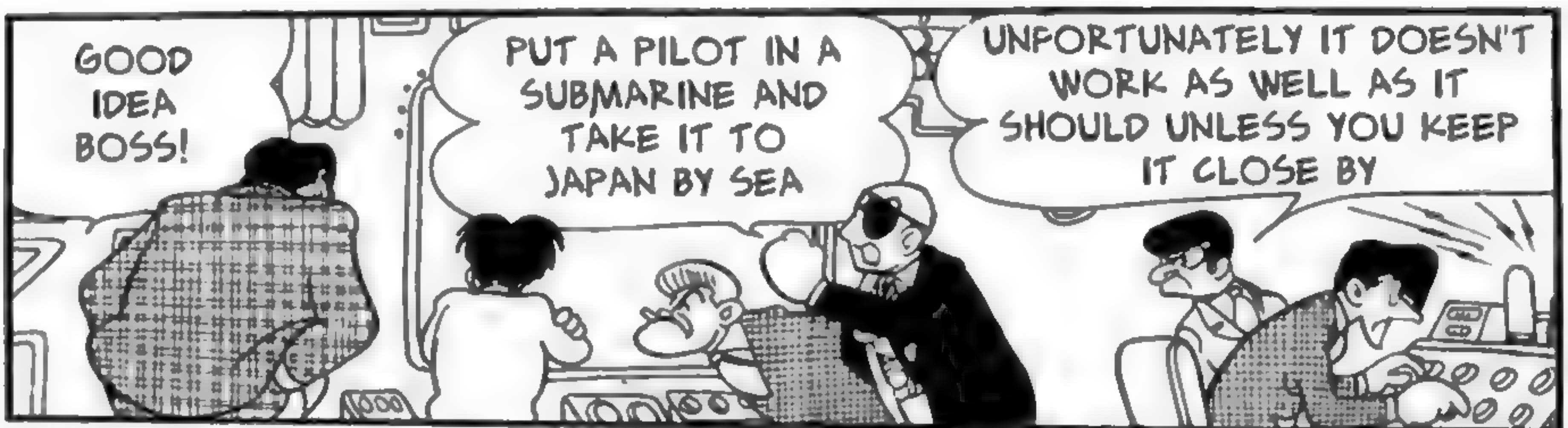

WE'LL USE THIS!


THE CARD IS DESTROYED, BUT THE SERUM WASN'T. THE BOY HAS IT, IF WE CAN LURE HIM IN.

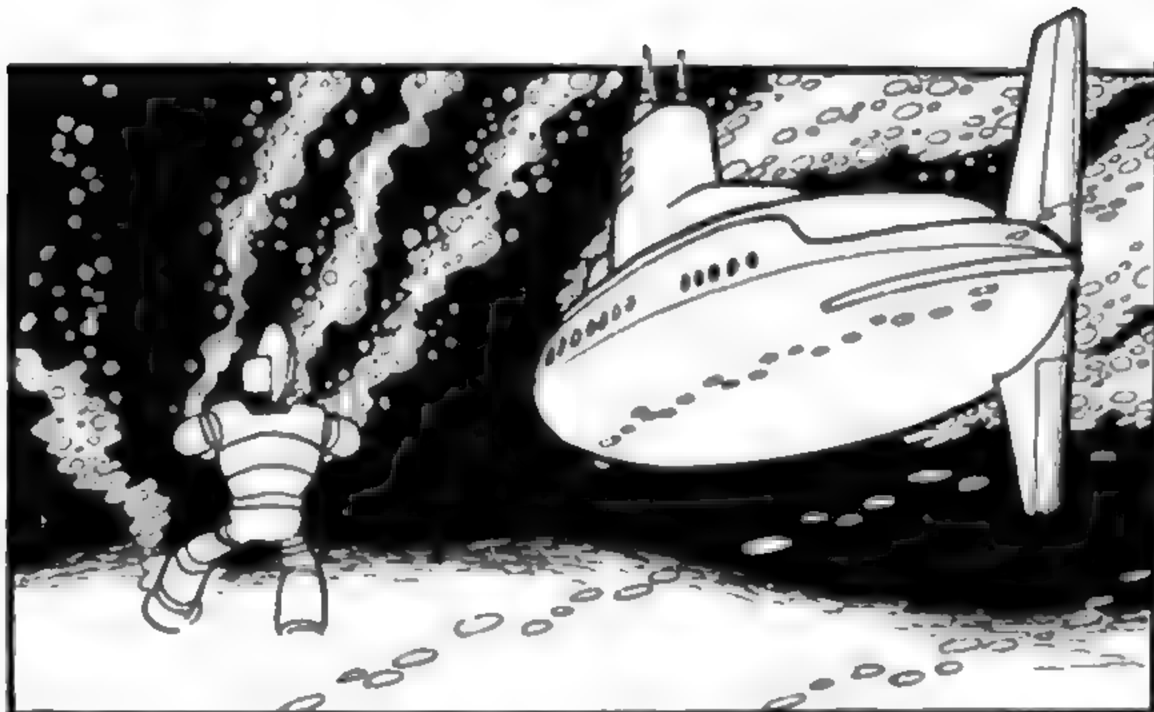

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ガキーン

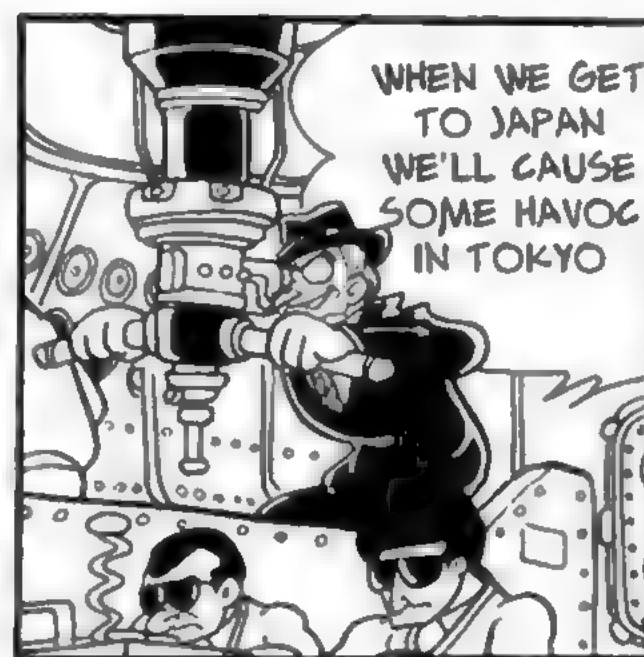






HEHEHEHE BIG X, THIS DECOY WILL GET YOUR ATTENTION

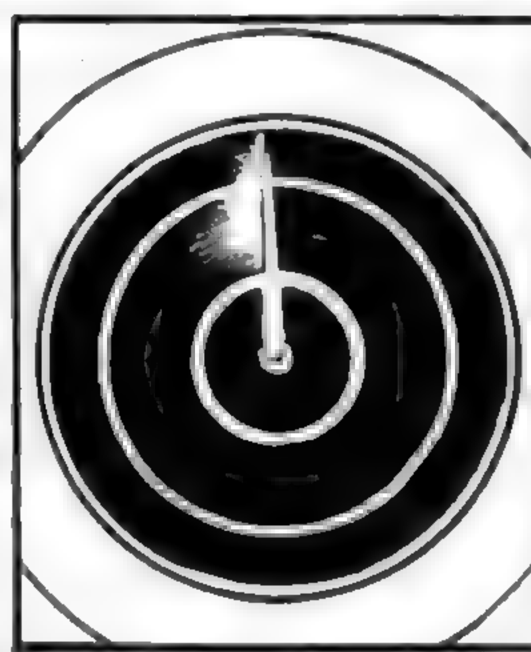


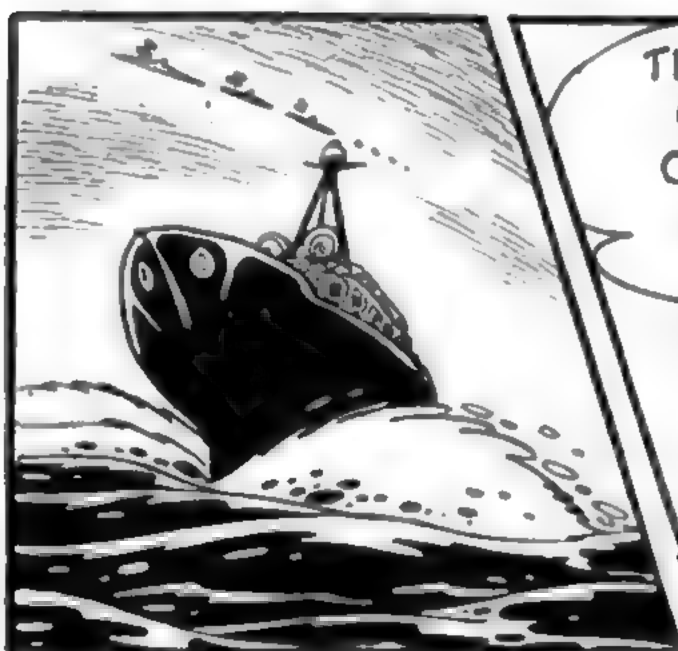

WHEN WE GET TO JAPAN WE'LL CAUSE SOME HAVOC IN TOKYO


ALREADY... THE WATERS AROUND TOKYO
OKAY, LET'S SURFACE

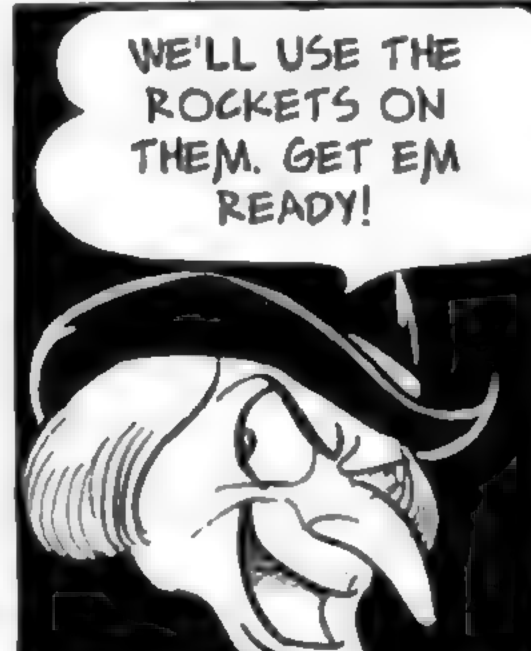

MAYBE THEY'LL ALERT THE COAST GUARD
HEHEHE I THINK THEY'VE NOTICED US


SIR! AN EXTREMELY HUGE OBJECT IS APPROACHING THE MAINLAND!

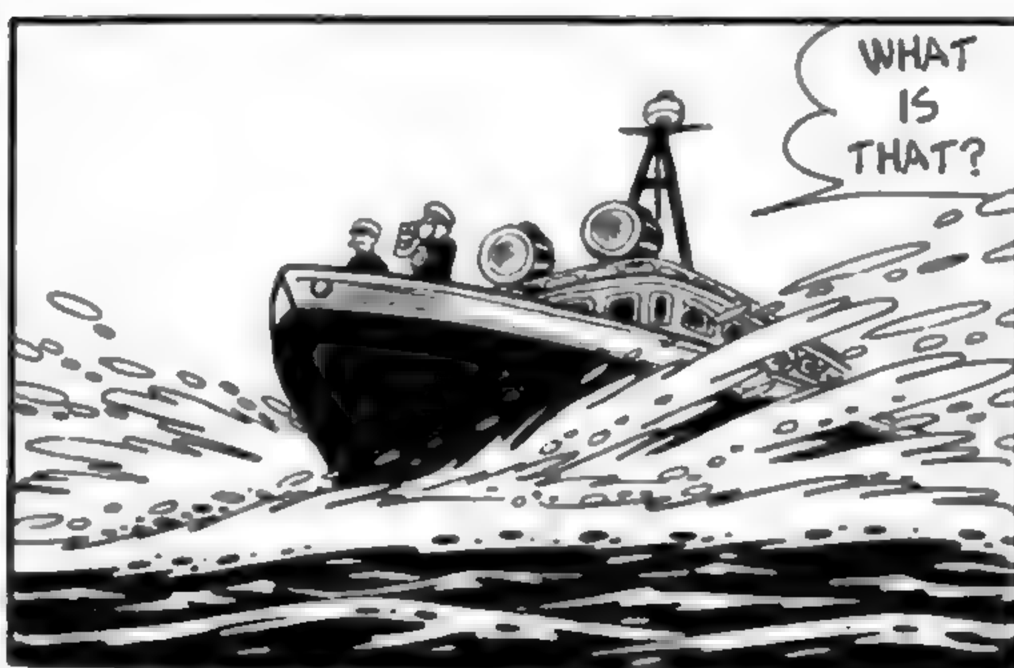





THE MYSTERIOUS OBJECT 50 KM OFF THE COAST AND STOPPED MOVING

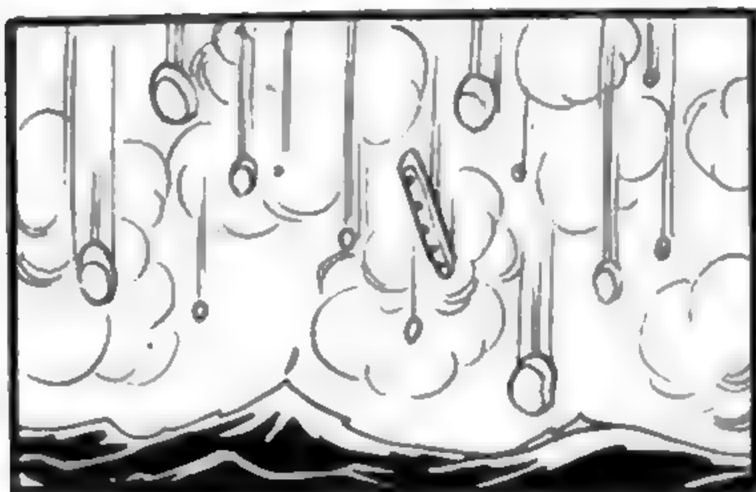

WE'LL USE THE ROCKETS ON THEM. GET EM READY!



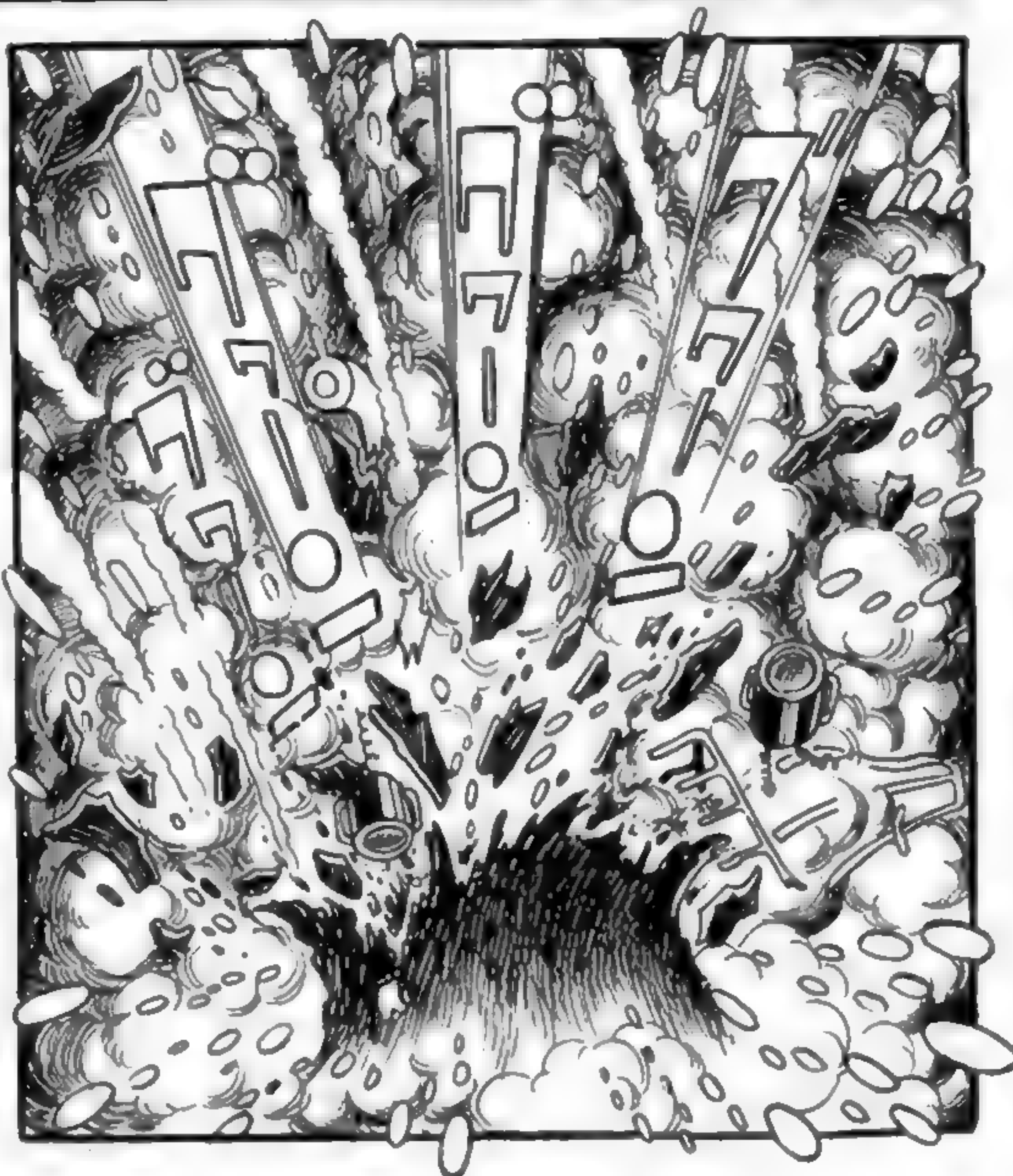


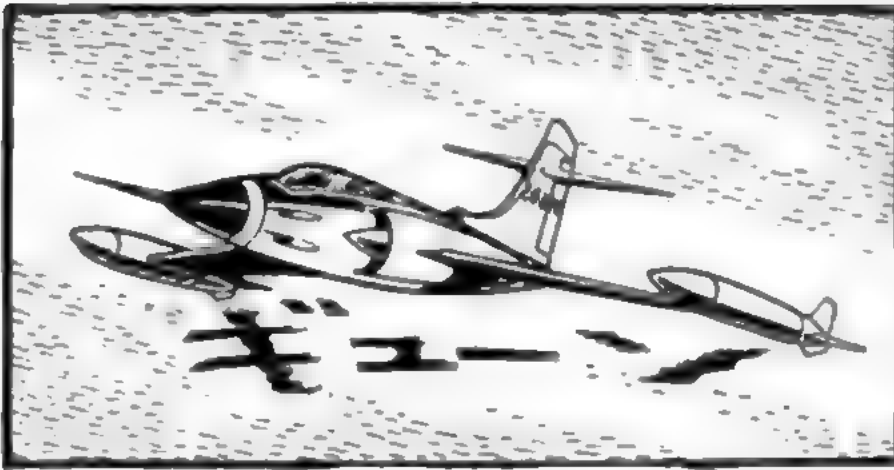
WHA? IT'S FIRED SOMETHING AT US!

IT'S ROCKETS! LOOK OUT!

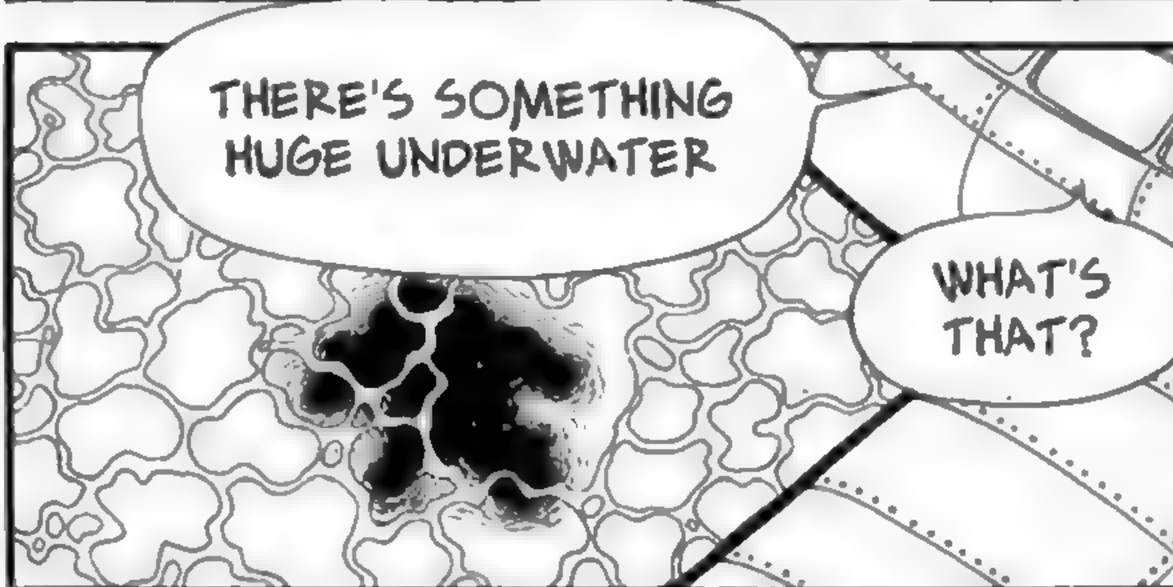



WIPED EM OUT!
A GREAT WAY TO LURE BIG X OUT OF HIDING HEHEHE

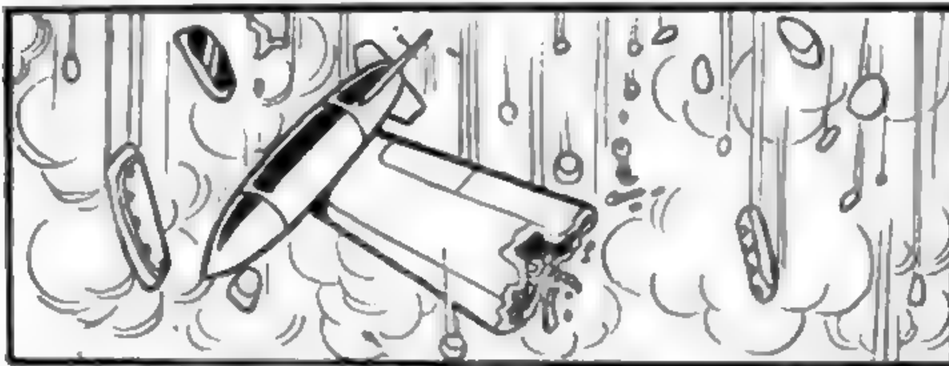


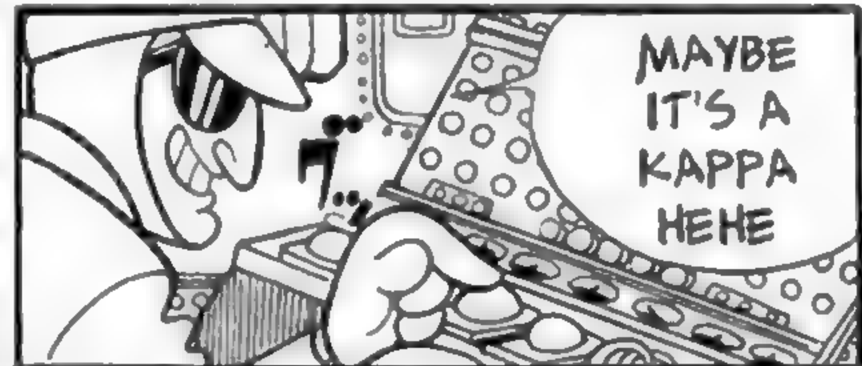

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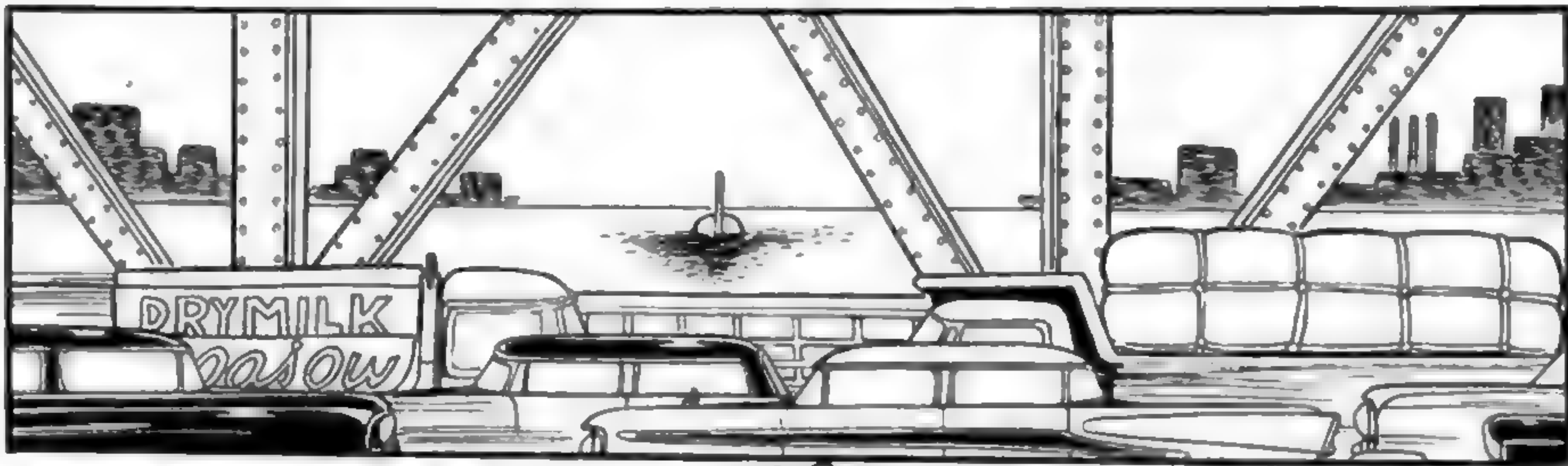

NOW A SCOUT PLANE IS HERE
ONE SHOT SHOULD TAKE CARE OF IT.

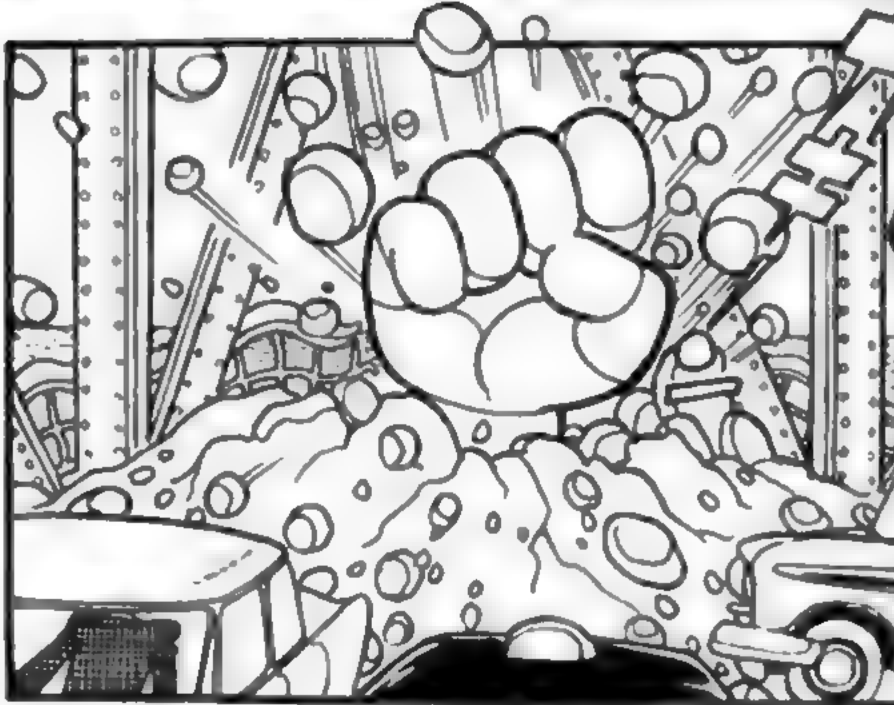

THERE'S SOMETHING HUGE UNDERWATER
WHAT'S THAT?

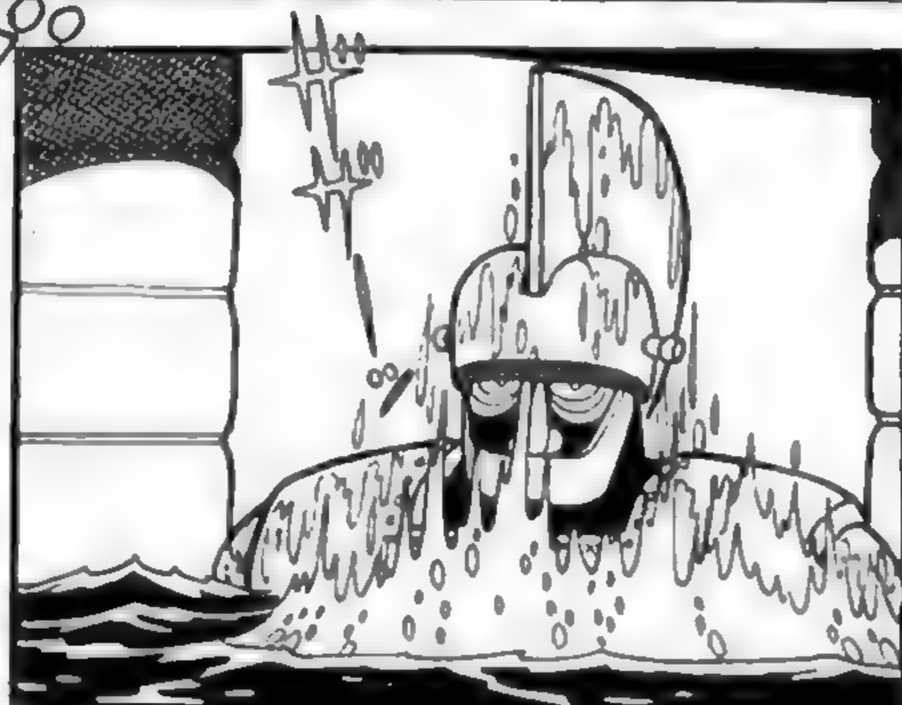

WE'VE ARRIVED AT THE PATROL BOAT'S S.O.S. AND IT'S ALL OIL AND DEBRIS

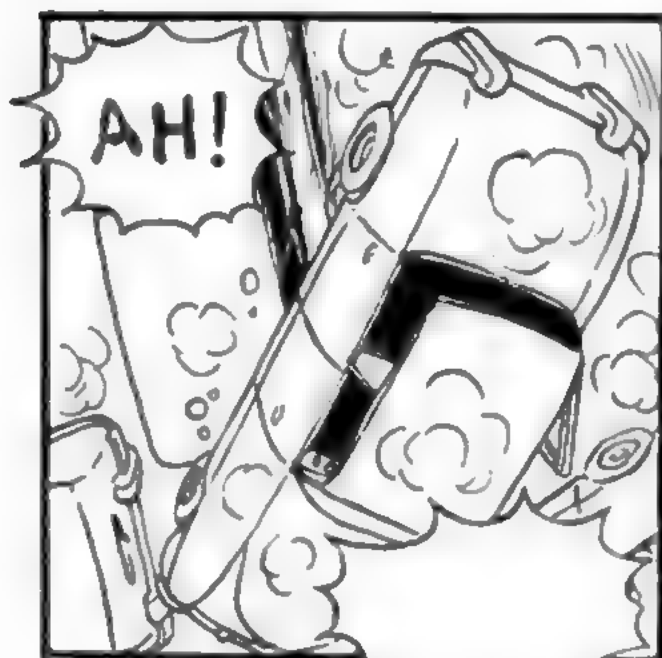



MAYBE IT'S A KAPPA HEHE


DRYMILK





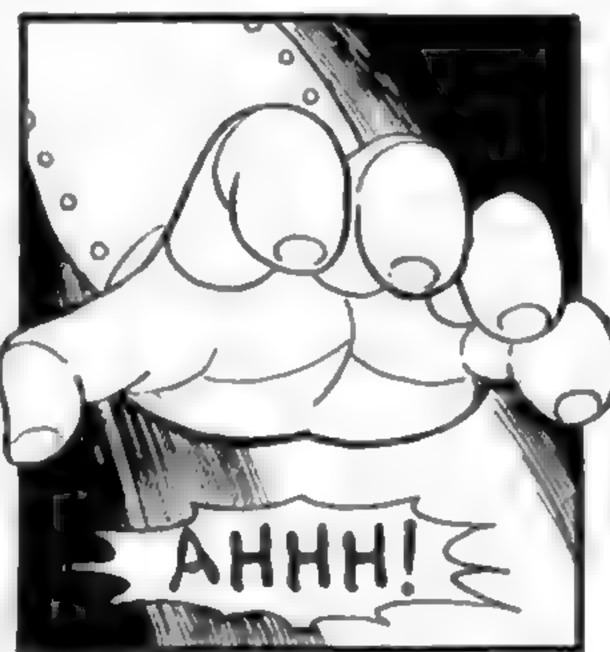

AH!

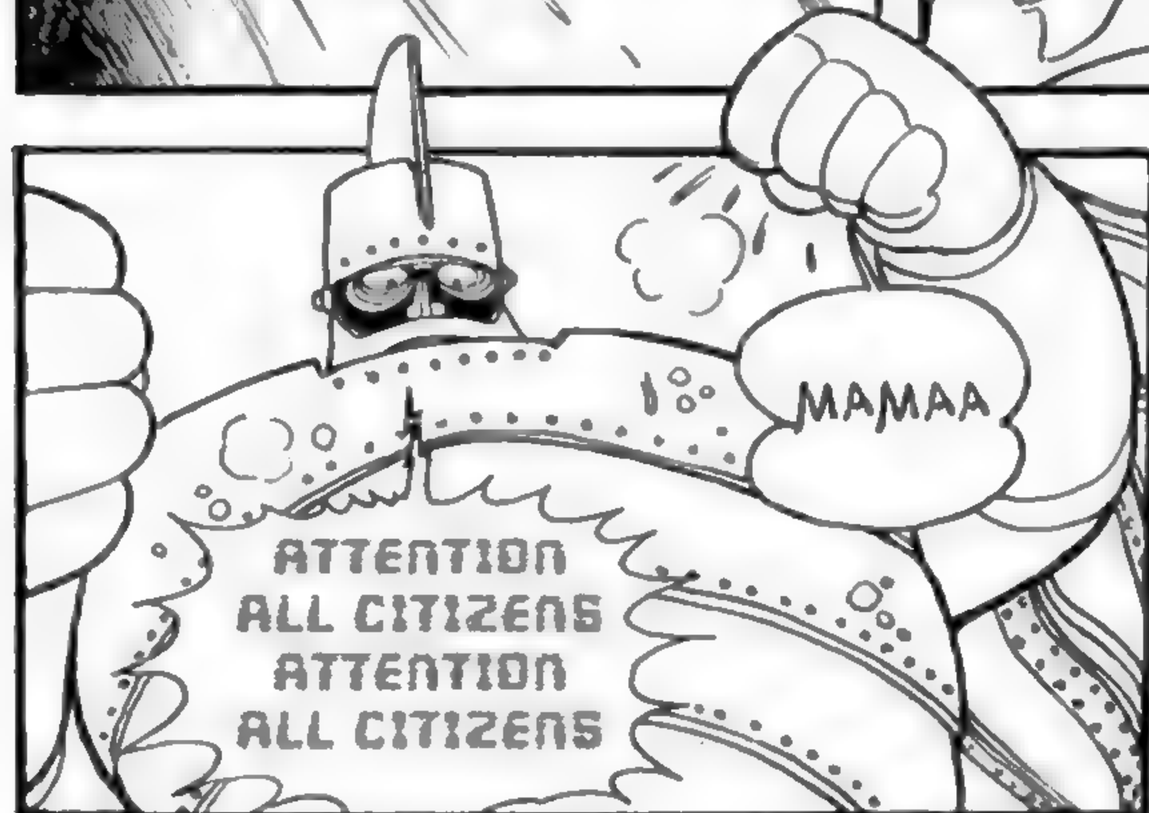

FUUOON


OH NO!
WAHH

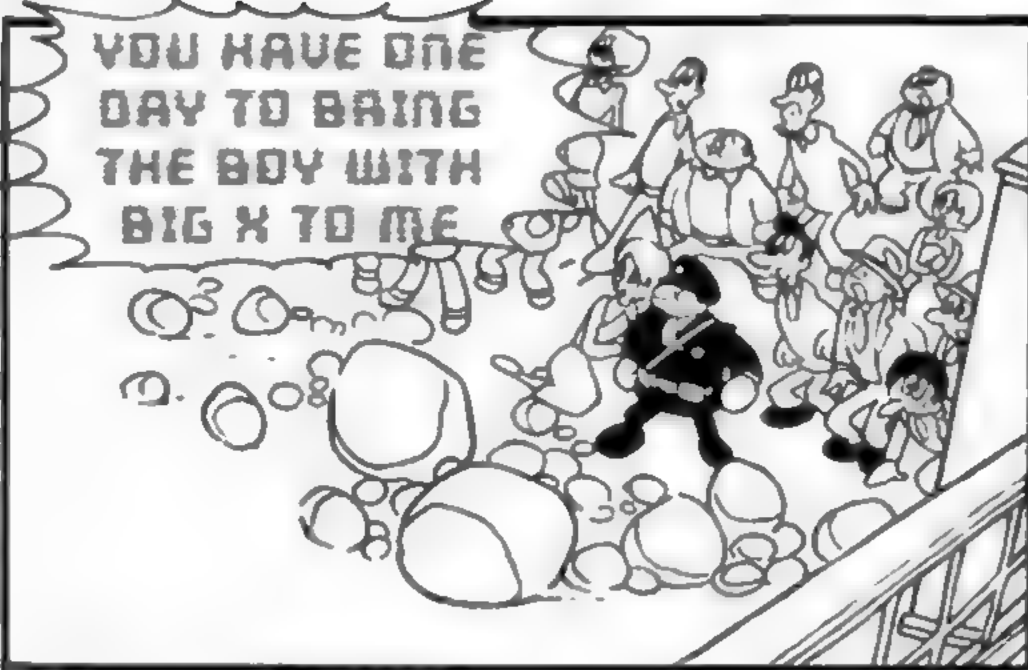

MOMMMEEEE


MY BABY!


AHHH!


MAMAA
ATTENTION ALL CITIZENS ATTENTION ALL CITIZENS


MY BOY!
GIVE HIM BACK!


YOU HAVE ONE DAY TO BRING THE BOY WITH BIG X TO ME

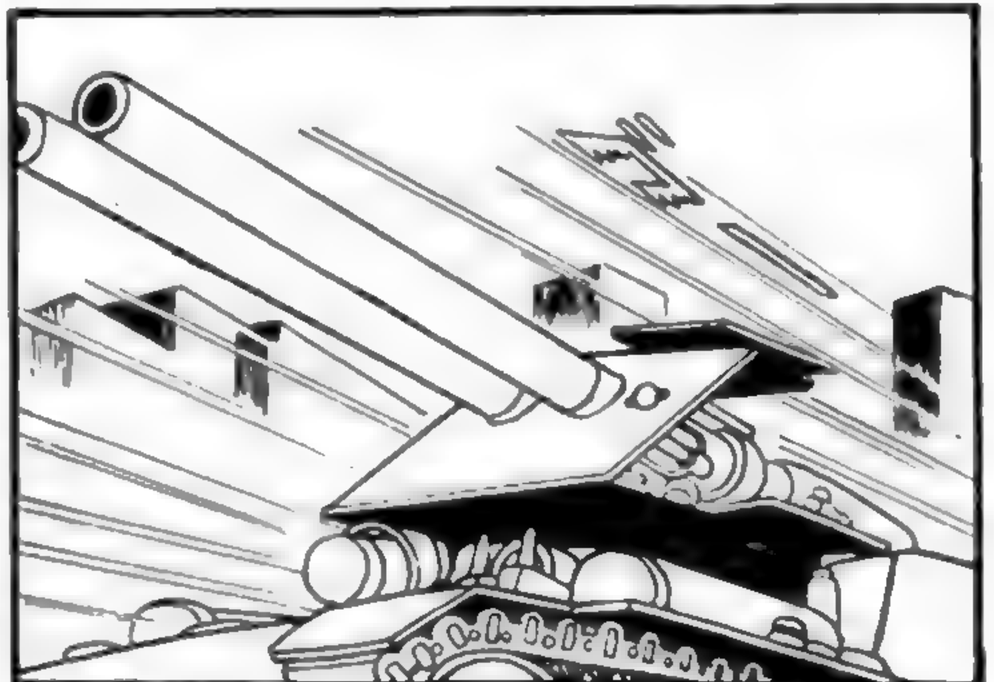

THIS CHILD IS A HOSTAGE. I HAVE ONE CONDITION FOR HIS RETURN

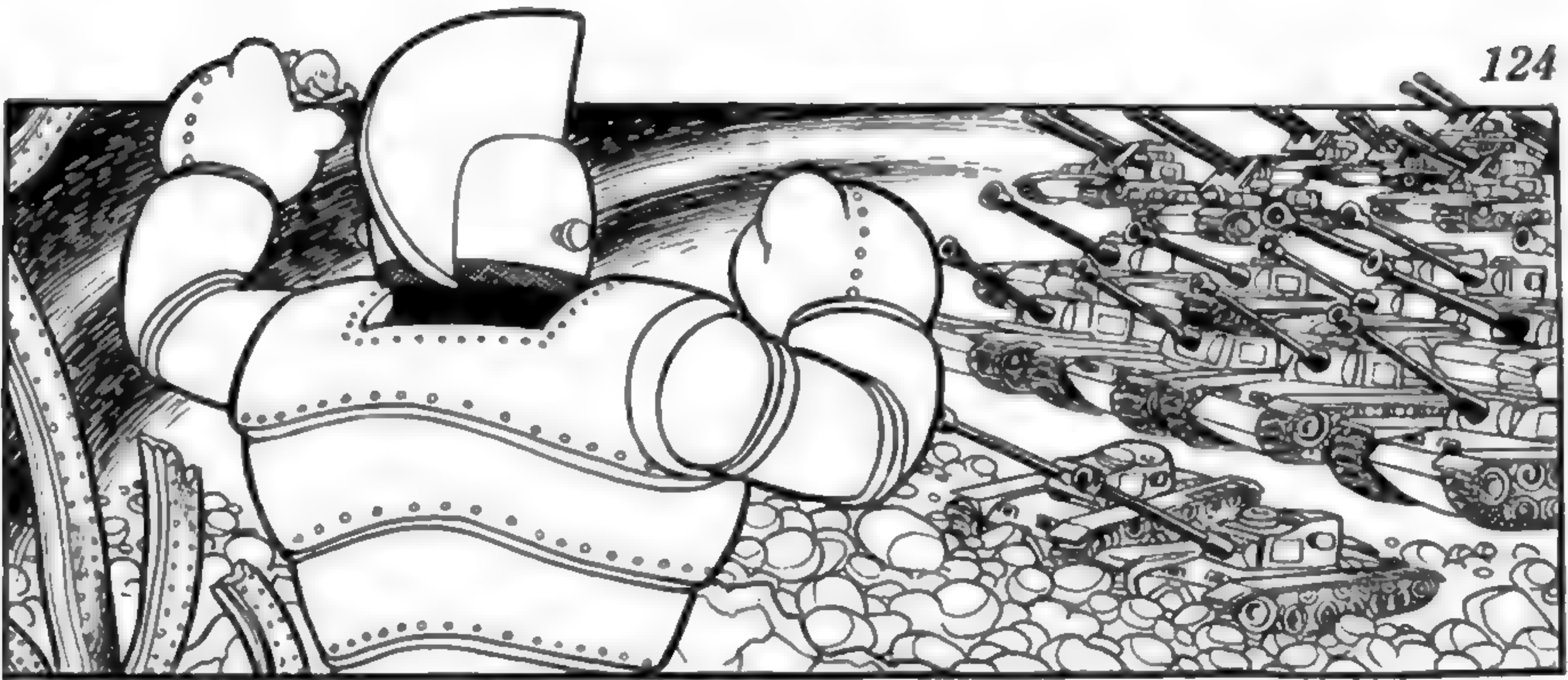

IF THE BOY AND BIG X DO NOT APPEAR, THE CHILD WILL DIE


NOOOO!
MA'AM, DON T DO ANYTHING POOLISH!


HOLD FIRE! WE DON'T WANT TO HIT THAT KID IN HIS HAND.
CAPTAIN, DO YOU WANT TO FIRE?







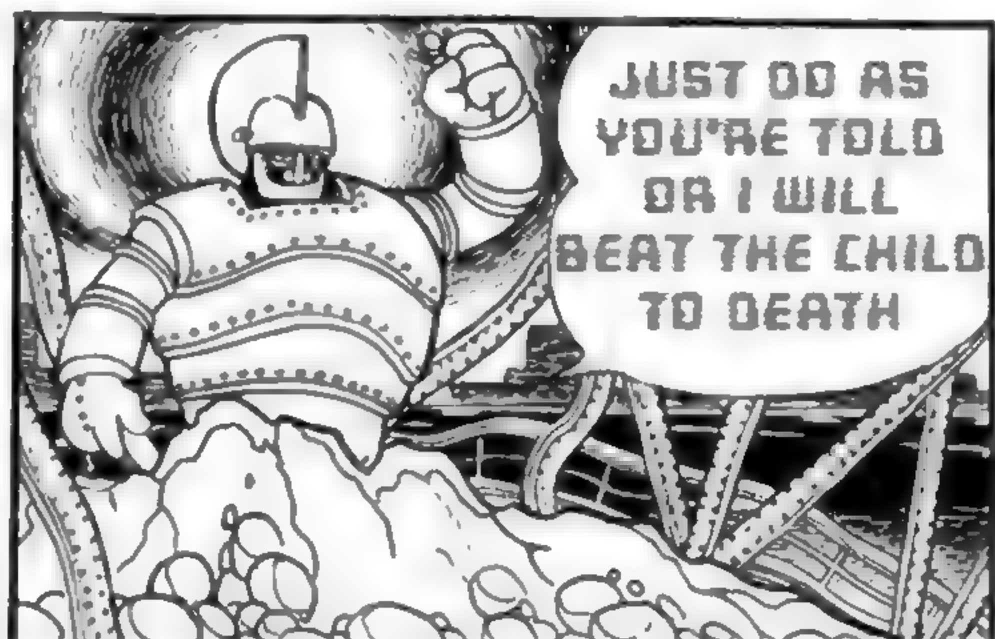

WHO ARE YOU? WHY DO YOU WANT HIM, YOU GOOD FOR NOTHING!


HURRY UP AND FIND ME BIG X AND THE BOY


WHAT IS THIS NONESENSE? IT'S NO USE FIGHTING ME.


"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, DO YOU KNOW ABOUT BIG X?"


....


JUST DO AS YOU'RE TOLD OR I WILL BEAT THE CHILD TO DEATH

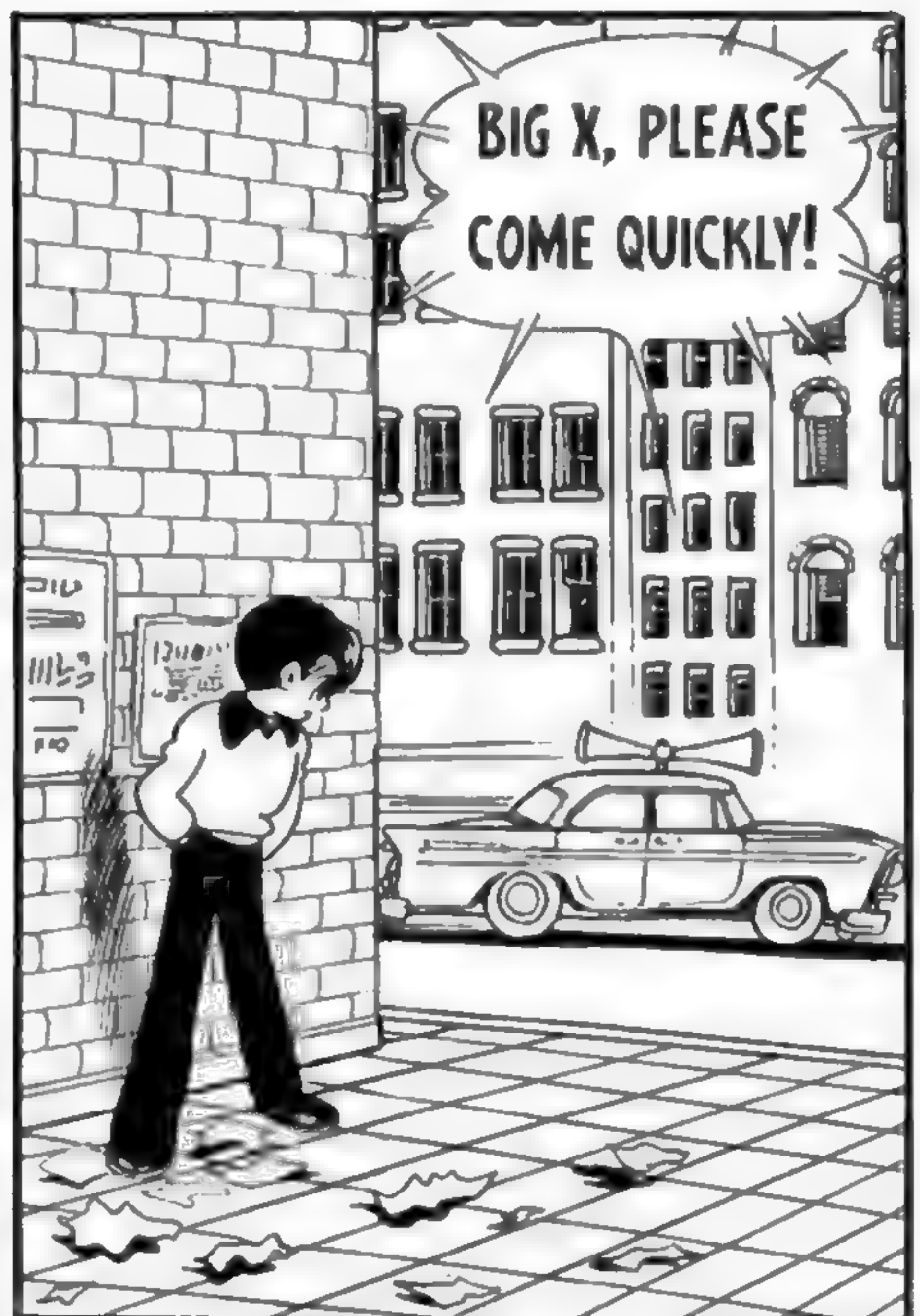

WAAHH!


WE MUST ASK, WHERE ARE YOU BIG X?


"MR. BIG X! MR. BIG X! WE ASK THAT YOU COME FORWARD TO HELP SAVE A CHILD!"


IT'S CERTAINLY A TRAP.
THAT'S A HELL OF A WAY FOR THE NAZIS TO FIND ME.


BIG X COULD FALL INTO THEIR TRAP AND THE SERUM STOLEN.
BUT IF I COME OUT NOW ....

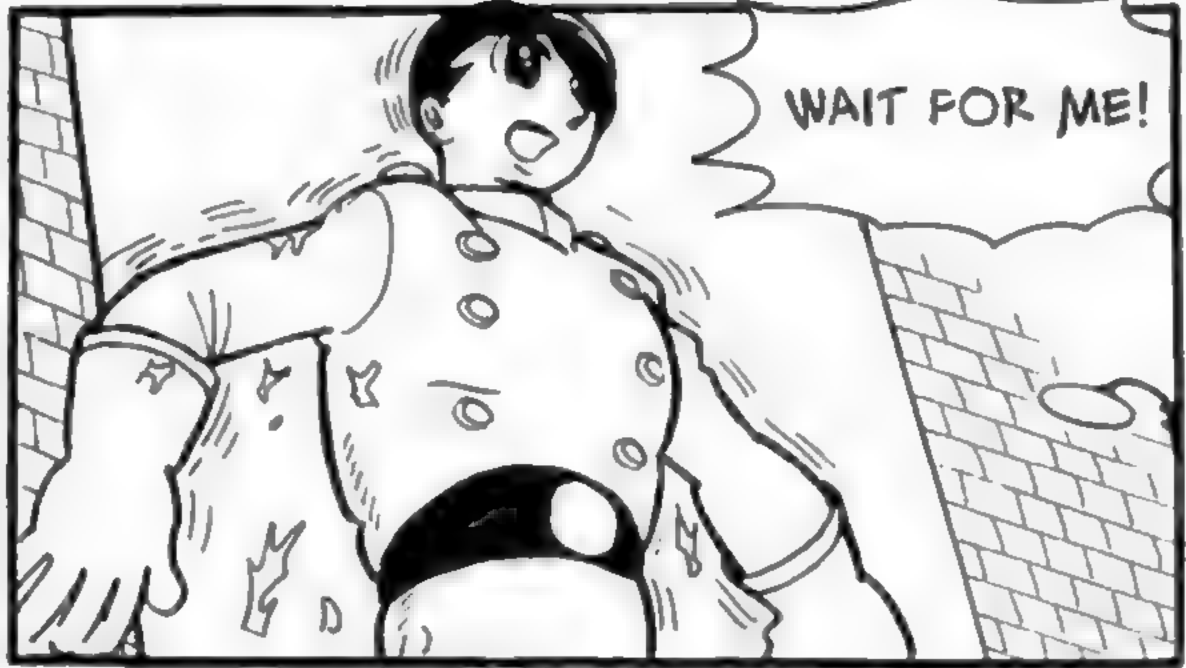

BIG X, PLEASE COME QUICKLY!


OKAY LEAGUE OF NAZIS... BIG X IS COMING!


BUT IF I DON'T GO OUT, HE WILL KILL THE BOY

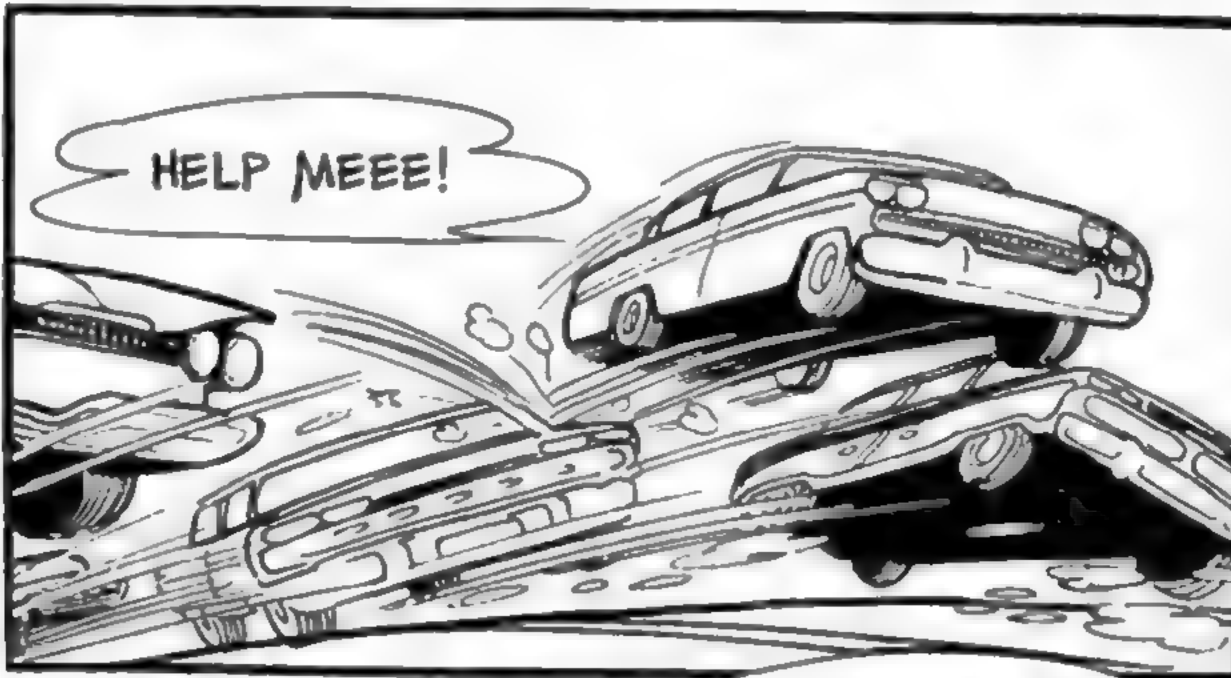

IT CAN'T BE HELPED ...




WAIT FOR ME!






HELP MEEE!


W-W-WHAT IS THAT??


PUT IT ON TV BEFORE IT GETS AWAY!


CHANGE THE HEADING FOR THE FRONT PAGE!


AAAAH!
IT'S COMING THIS WAY!



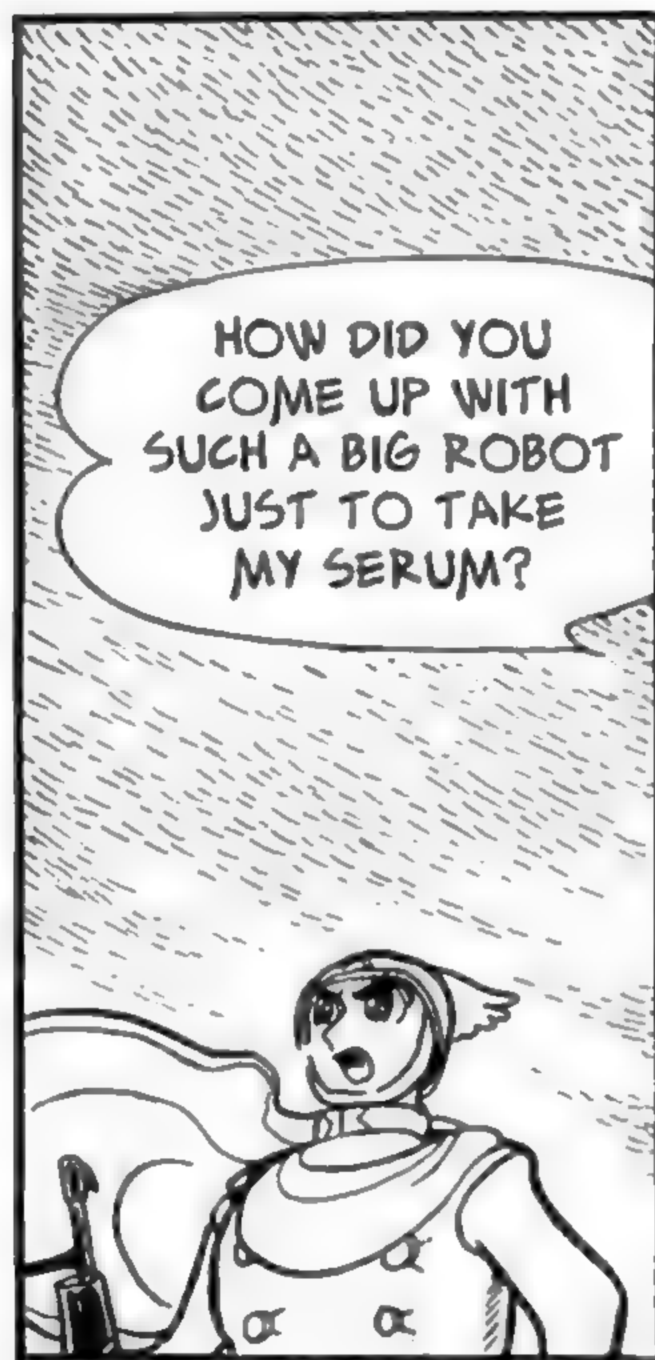


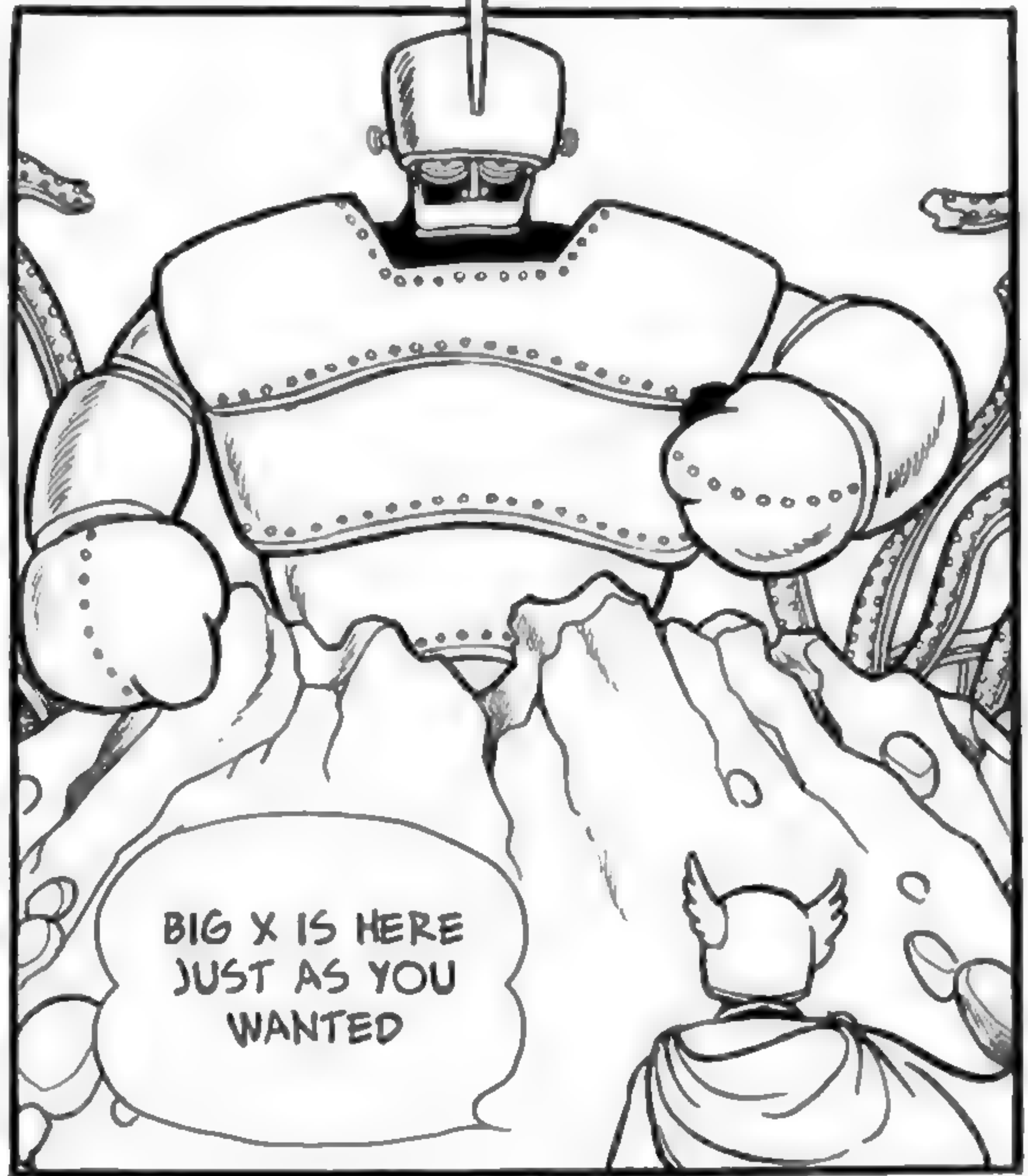

DON'T BE AFRAID. THERE'S NO NEED TO RUN. I AM BIG X!

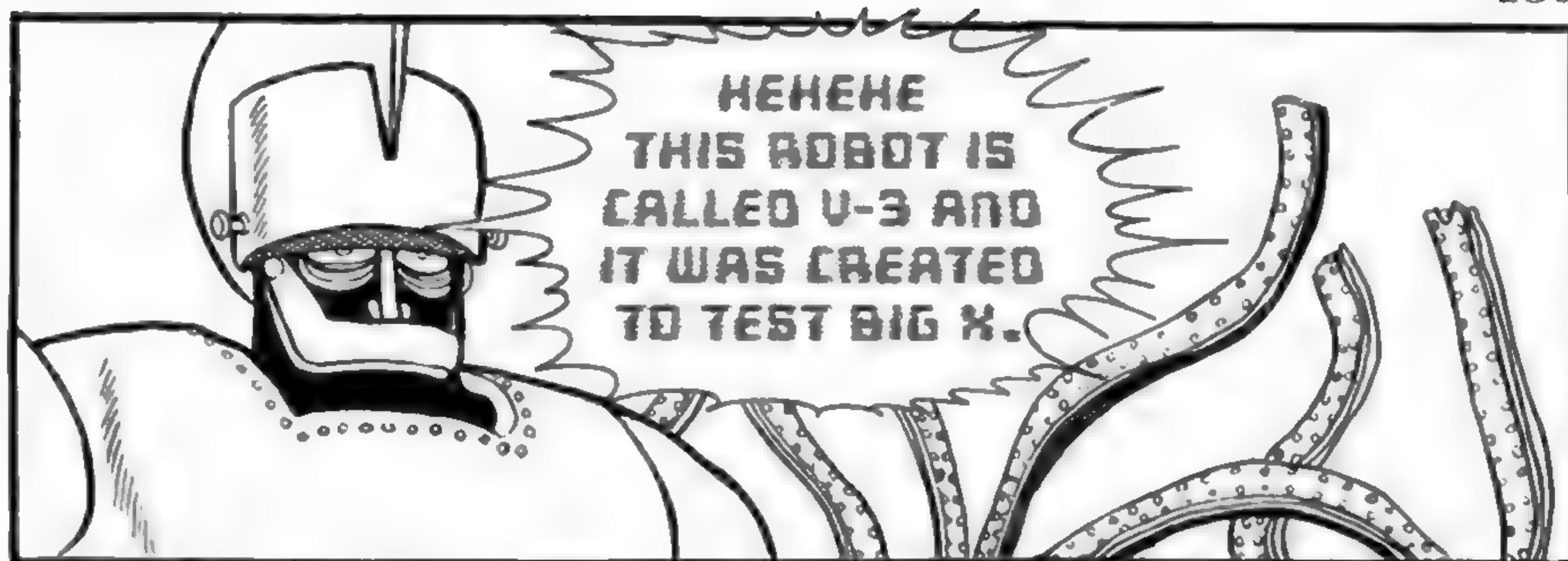

LOOK, IT'S A JAPANESE GULLIVER!

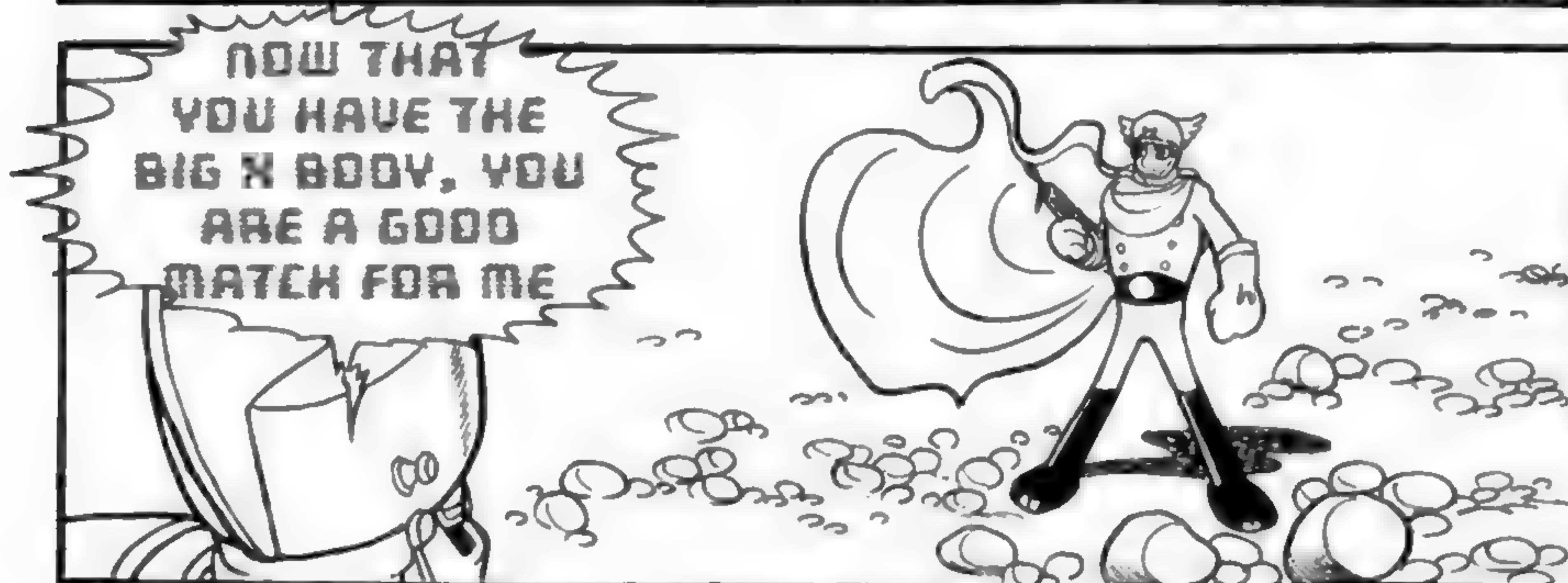

SORRY IF I WORRIED YOU BY NOT GETTING HERE SOONER. I'M SURE THE BOY WILL BE ALRIGHT!


DANGER! EVERYONE GET INSIDE!

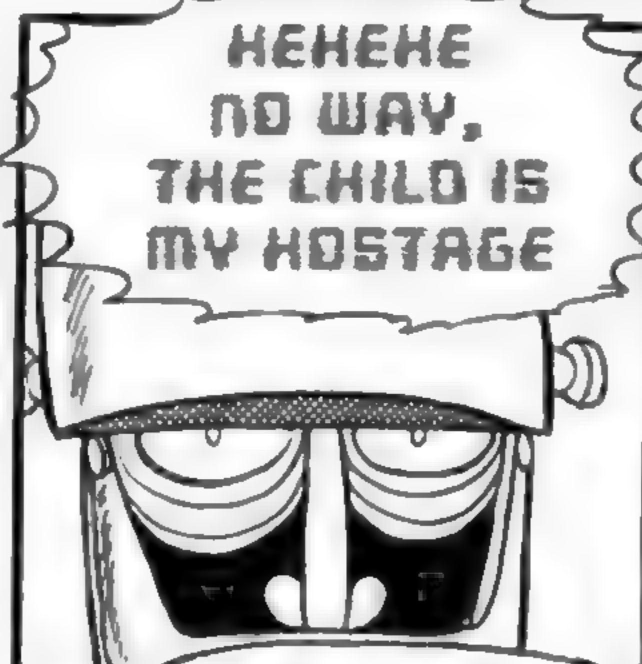

HOW DID YOU COME UP WITH SUCH A BIG ROBOT JUST TO TAKE MY SERUM?


BIG X IS HERE JUST AS YOU WANTED


HEHEHE
THIS ROBOT IS CALLED V-3 AND IT WAS CREATED TO TEST BIG X.


NOW THAT YOU HAVE THE BIG X BODY, YOU ARE A GOOD MATCH FOR ME

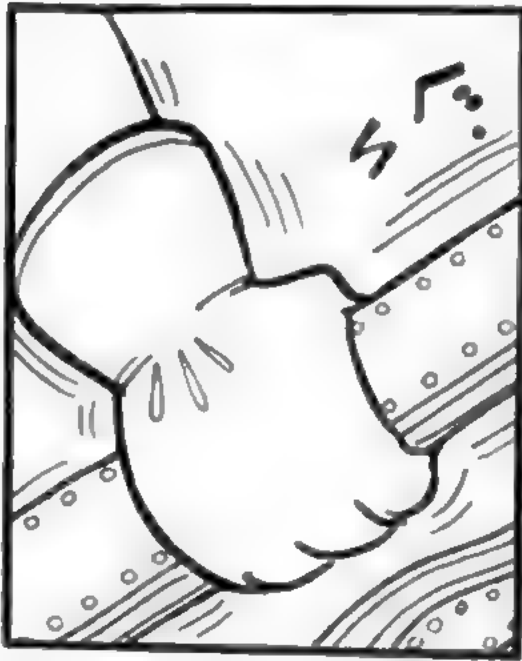

WAHHH WAAHH


HEHEHE
NO WAY, THE CHILD IS MY HOSTAGE

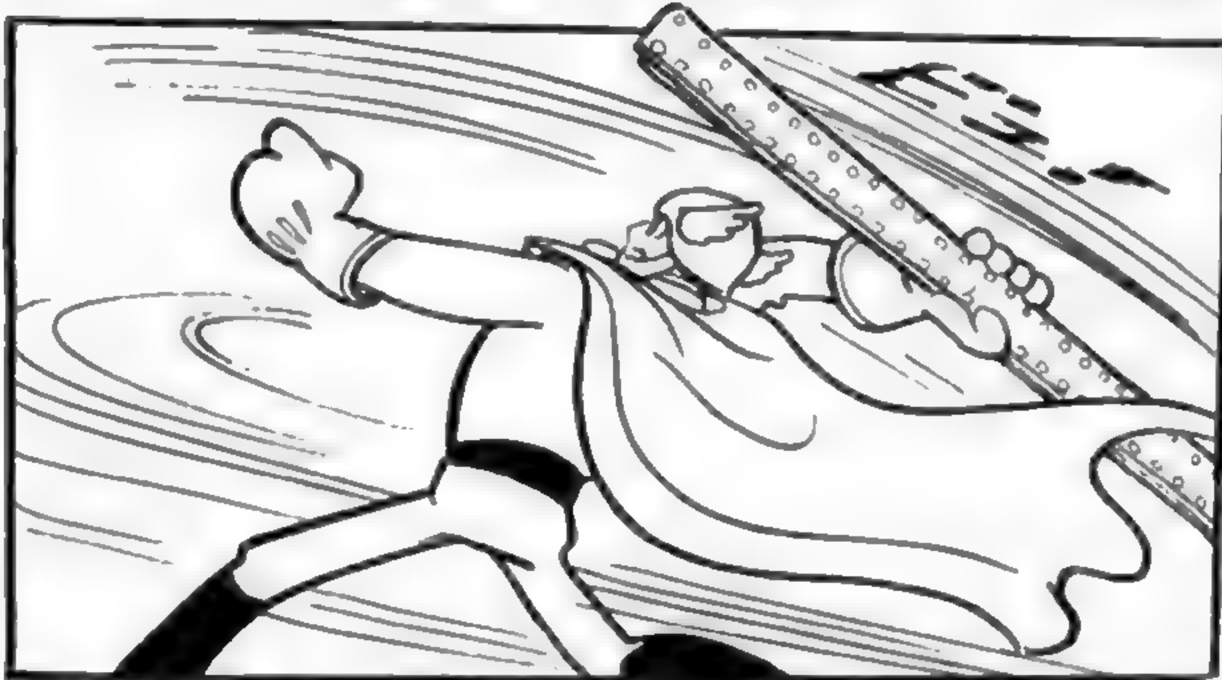
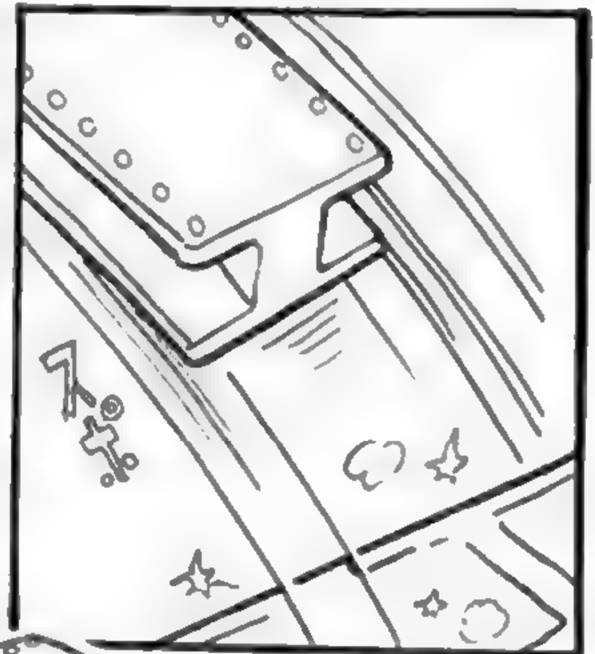
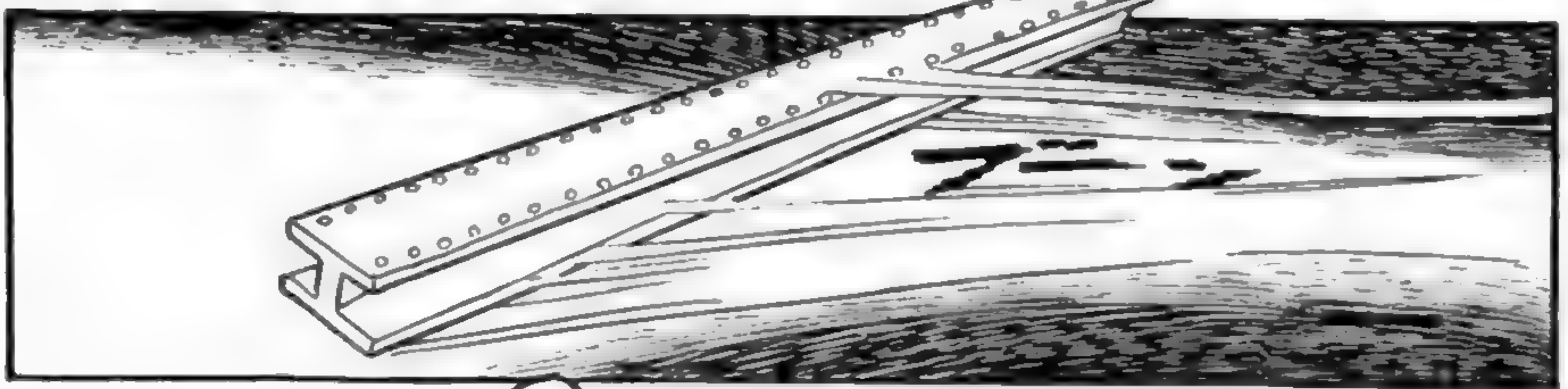
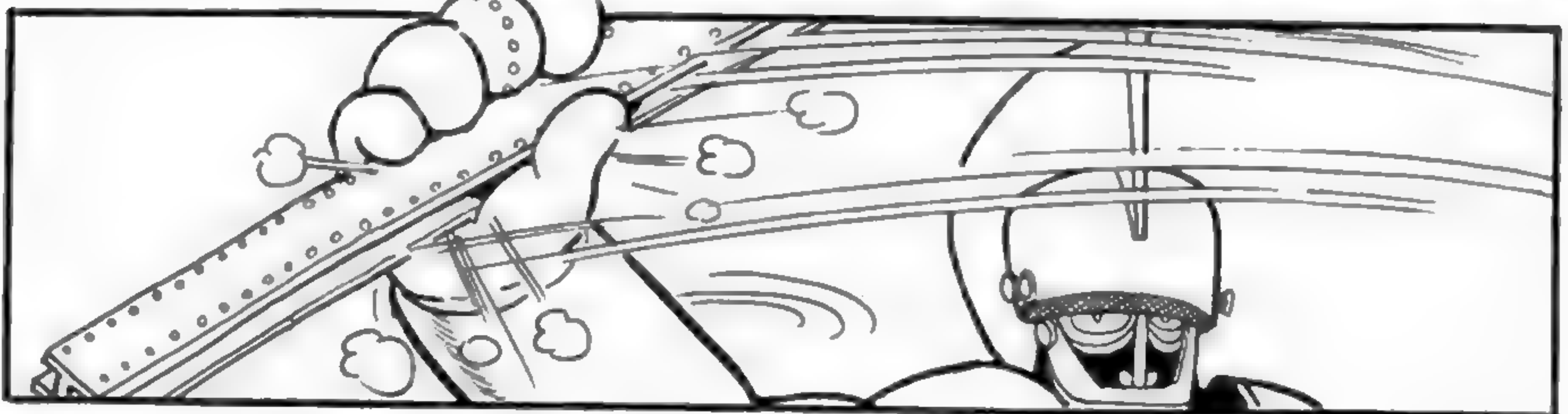
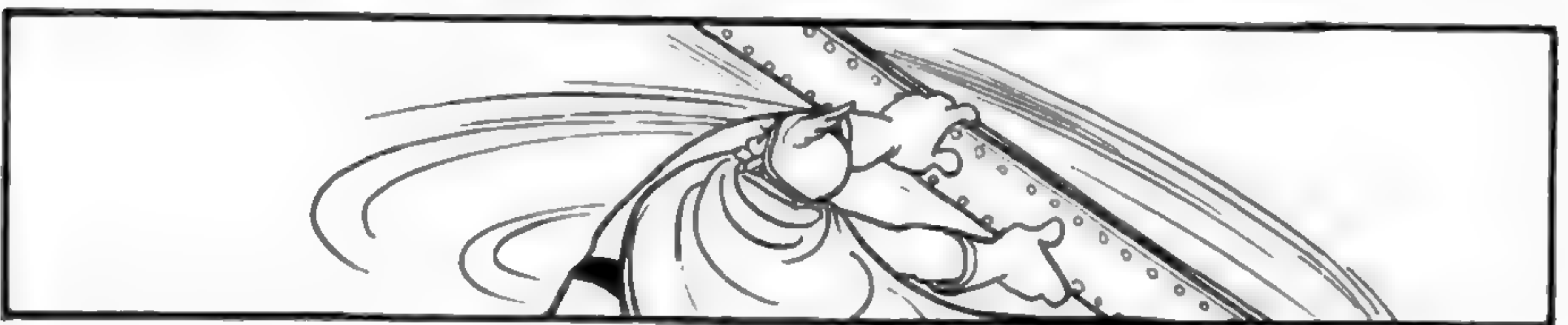

WE CAN FIGHT IF YOU WISH, BUT LET THE BOY GO

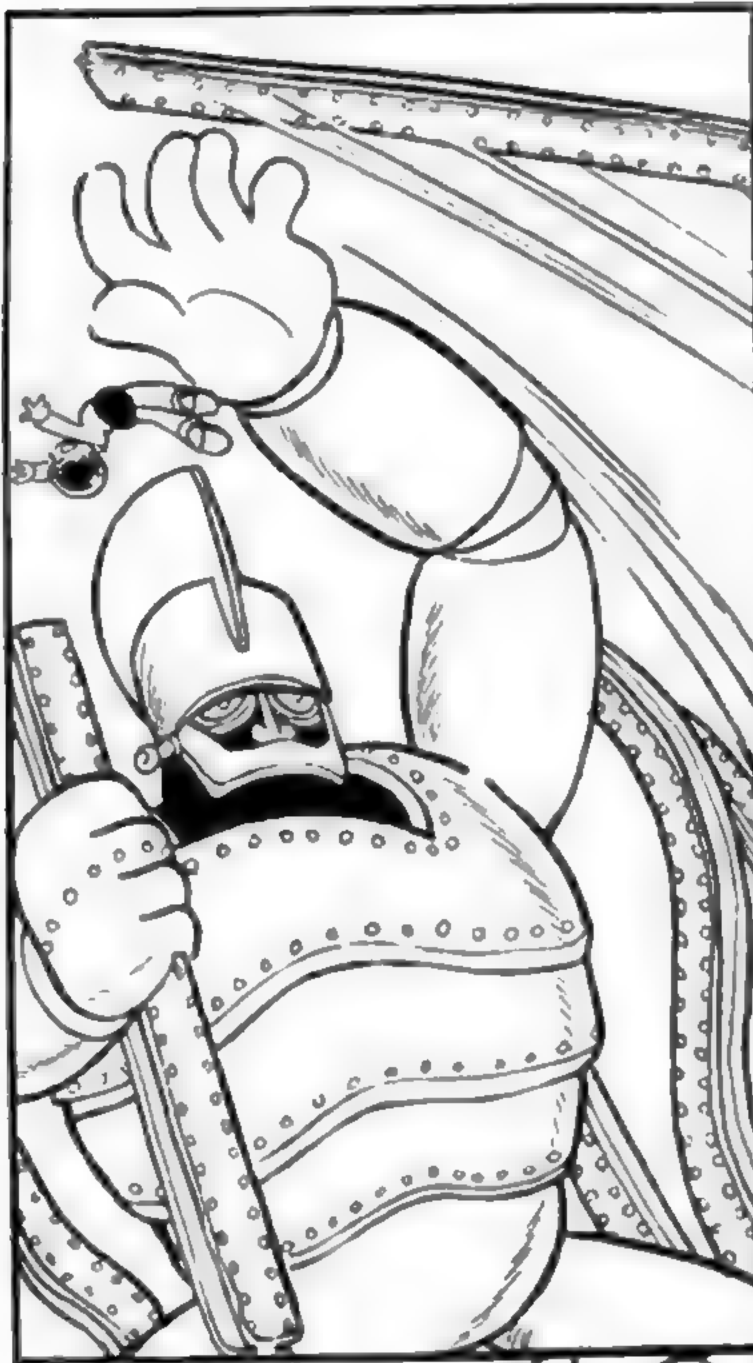
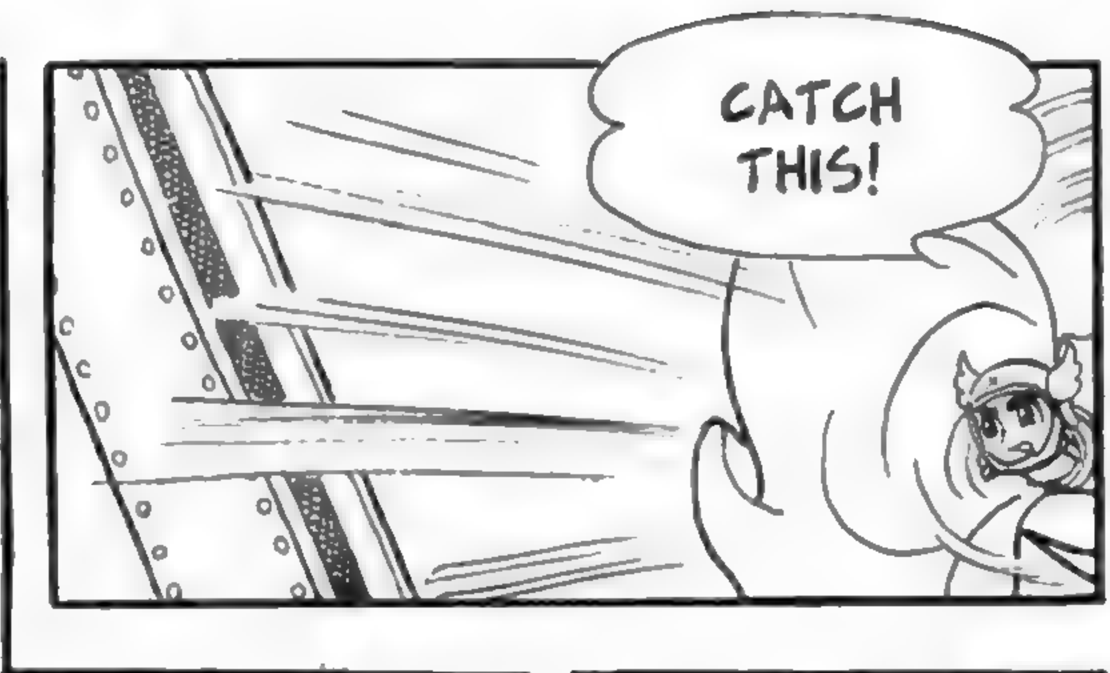

WE CAN'T FIGHT LIKE THAT!
THEN YOU UNDERSTAND! GIVE ME THE SERUM


ONE WRONG MOVE AND HE MIGHT FALL AND DIE

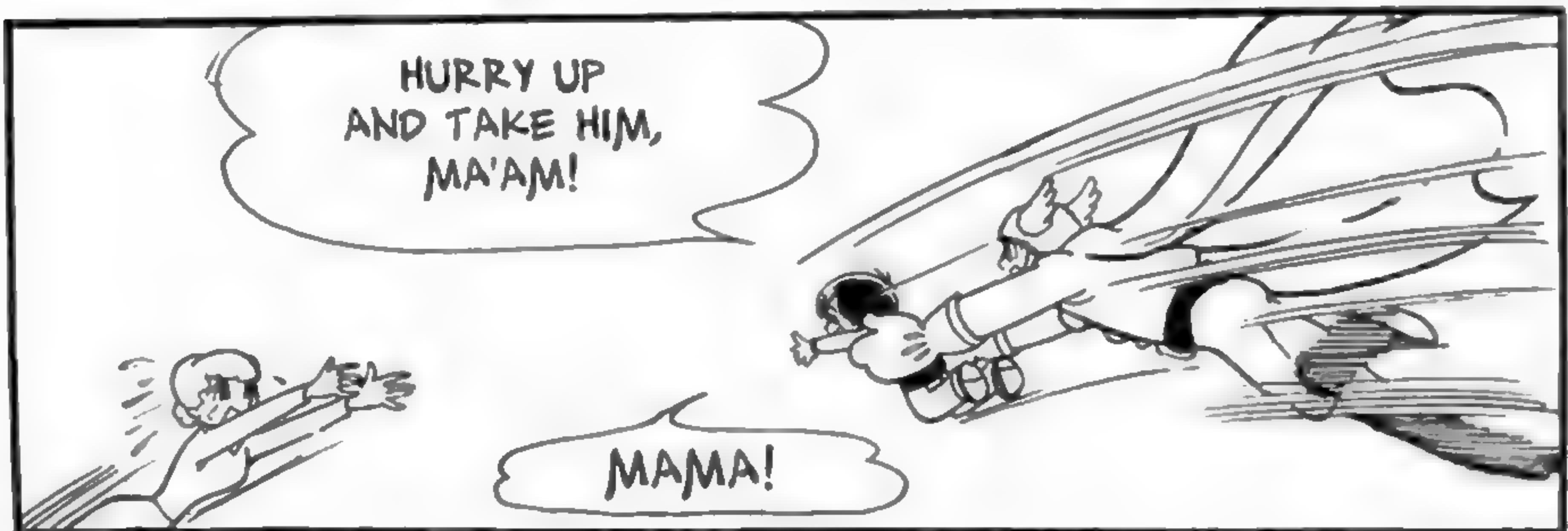



MY BABY!

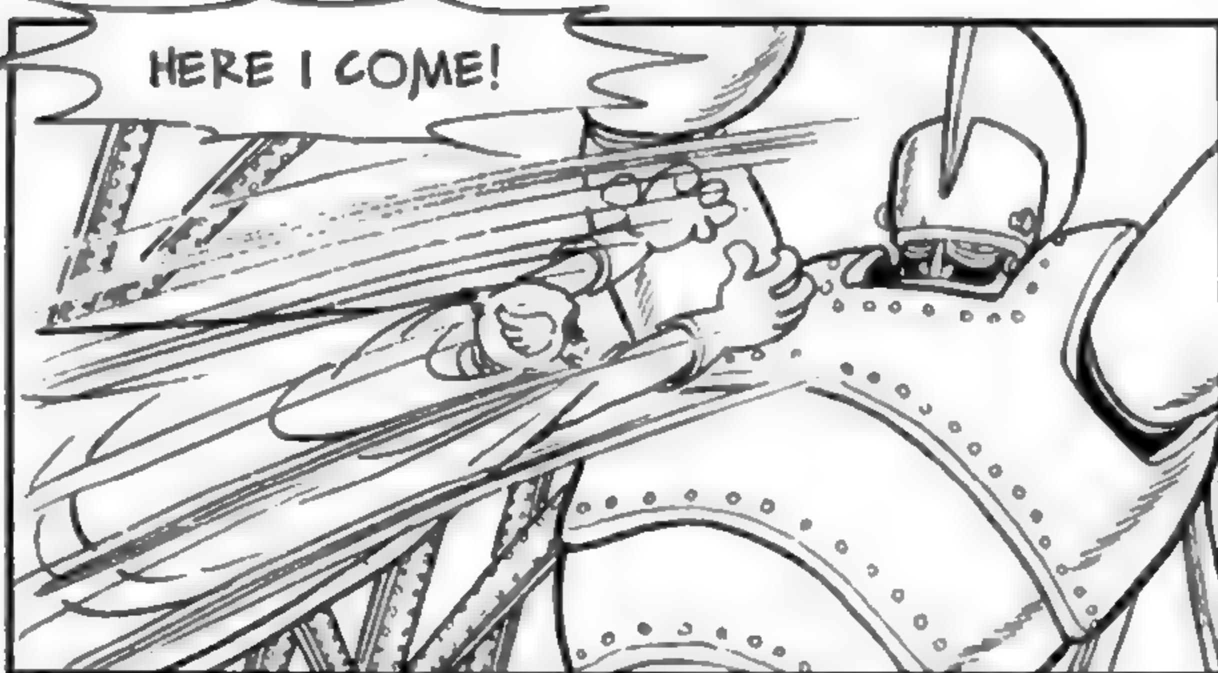
HA HA HA








CATCH THIS!

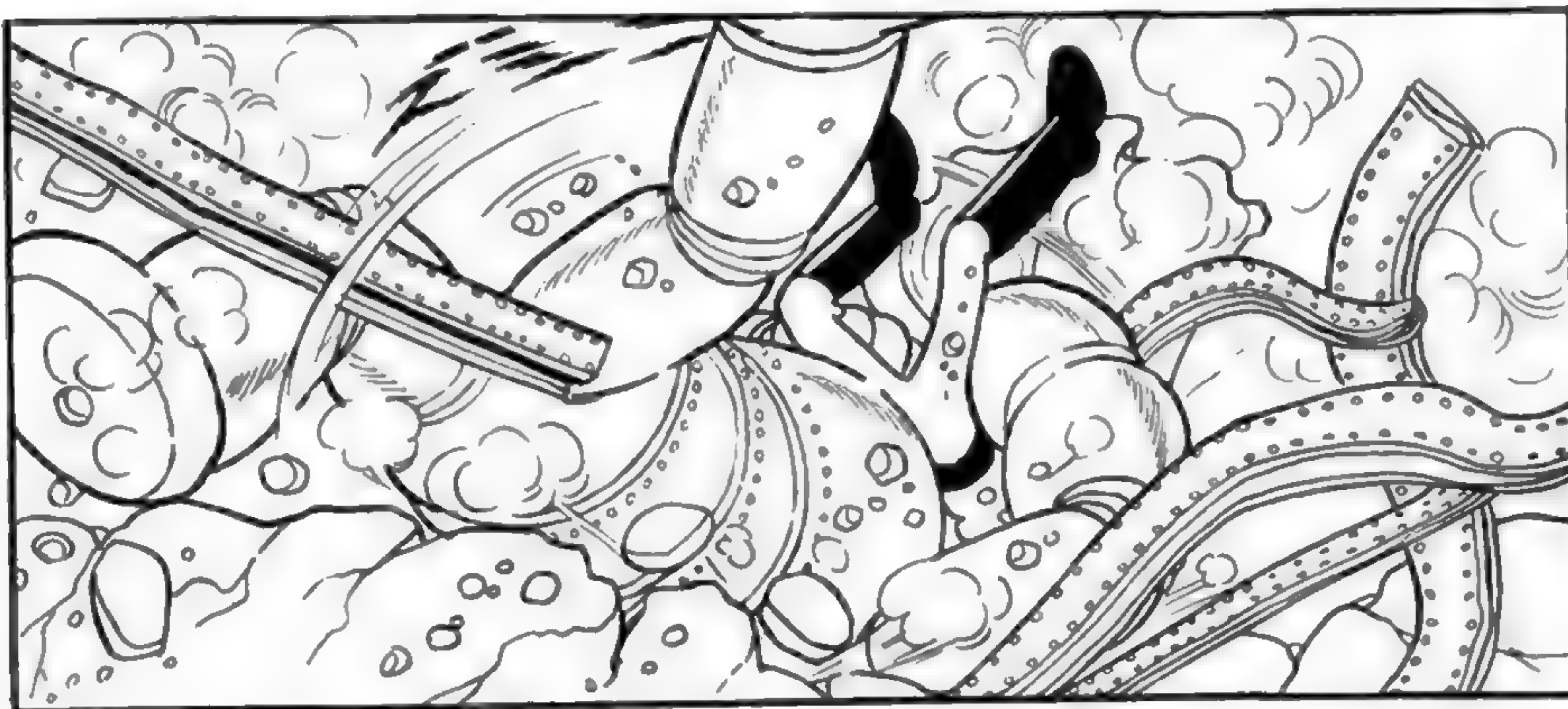
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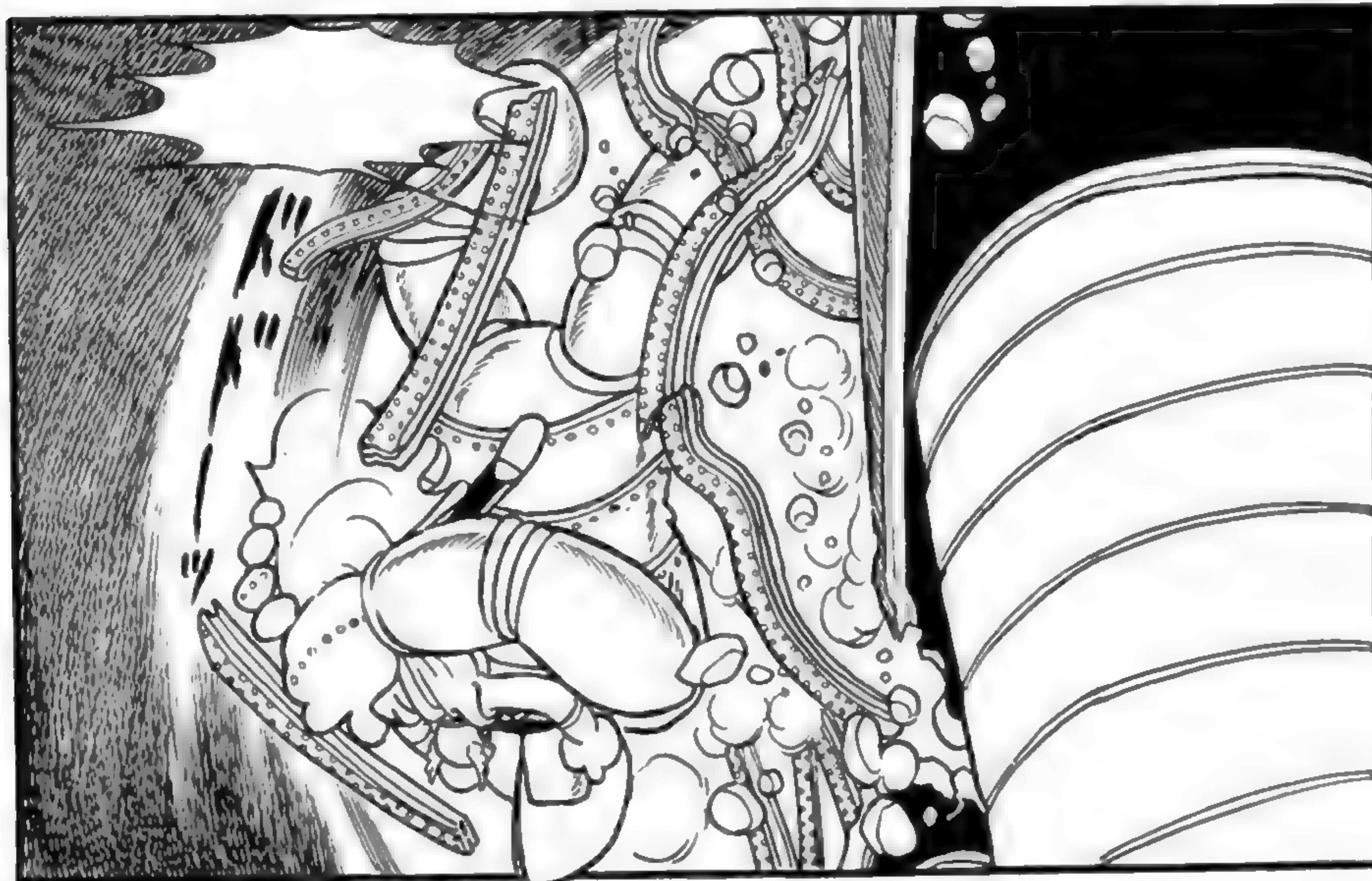
OOPS, LOOKS LIKE YOU LOST THE BOY!

HURRY UP AND TAKE HIM, MA'AM!

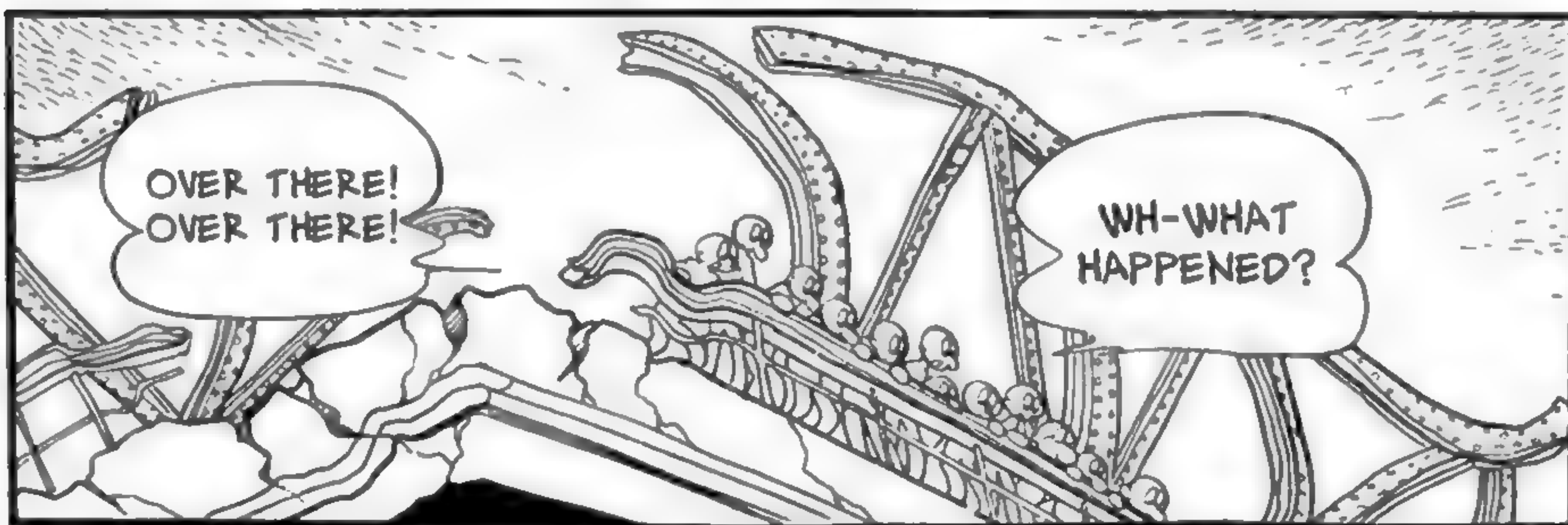
MAMA!


HERE I COME!


FINALLY! NOW WE CAN REALLY DO THIS!






WH-WHAT HAPPENED?
OVER THERE! OVER THERE!



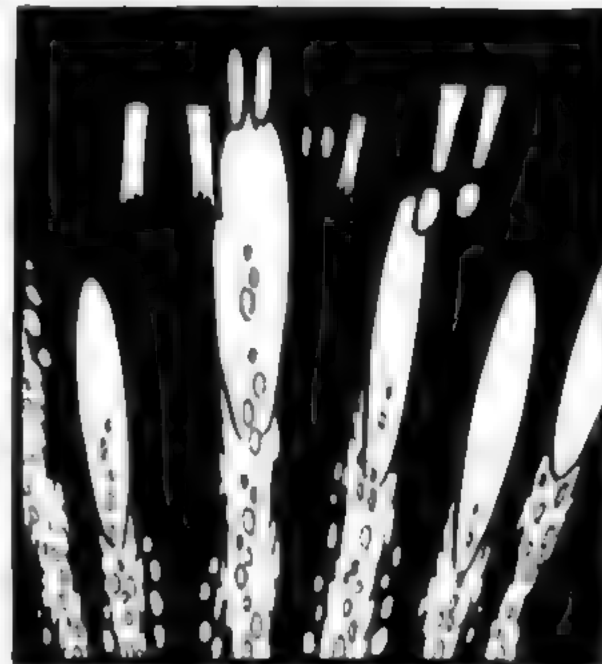

HE MUST BE
UP TO
NO GOOD...


HE'S GETTING
AWAY DOWN-
STREAM


AH HA!
I SEE
SOMETHING
....



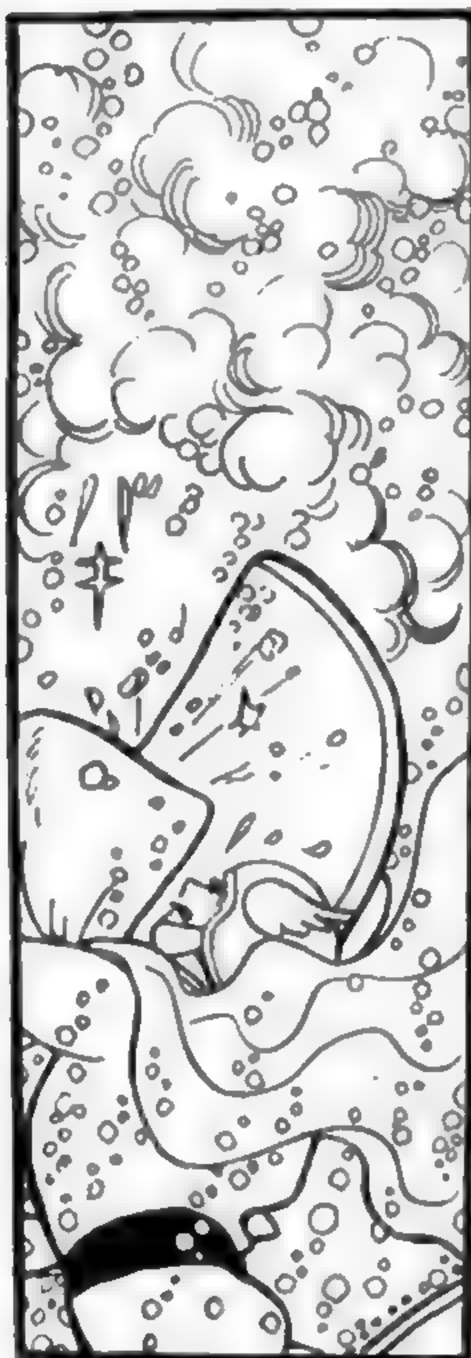


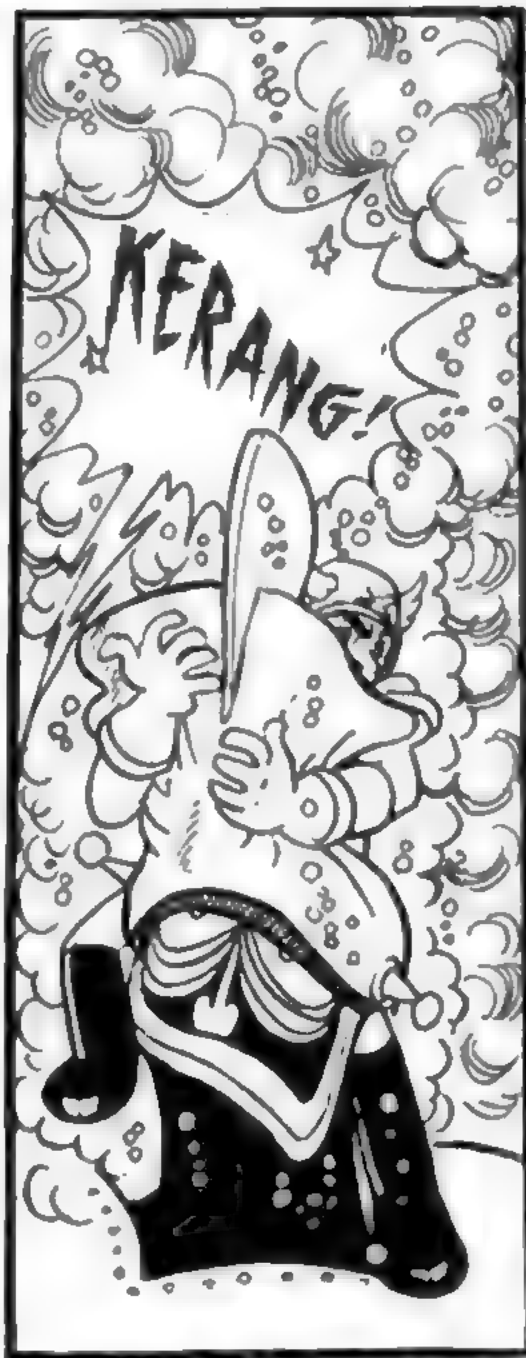


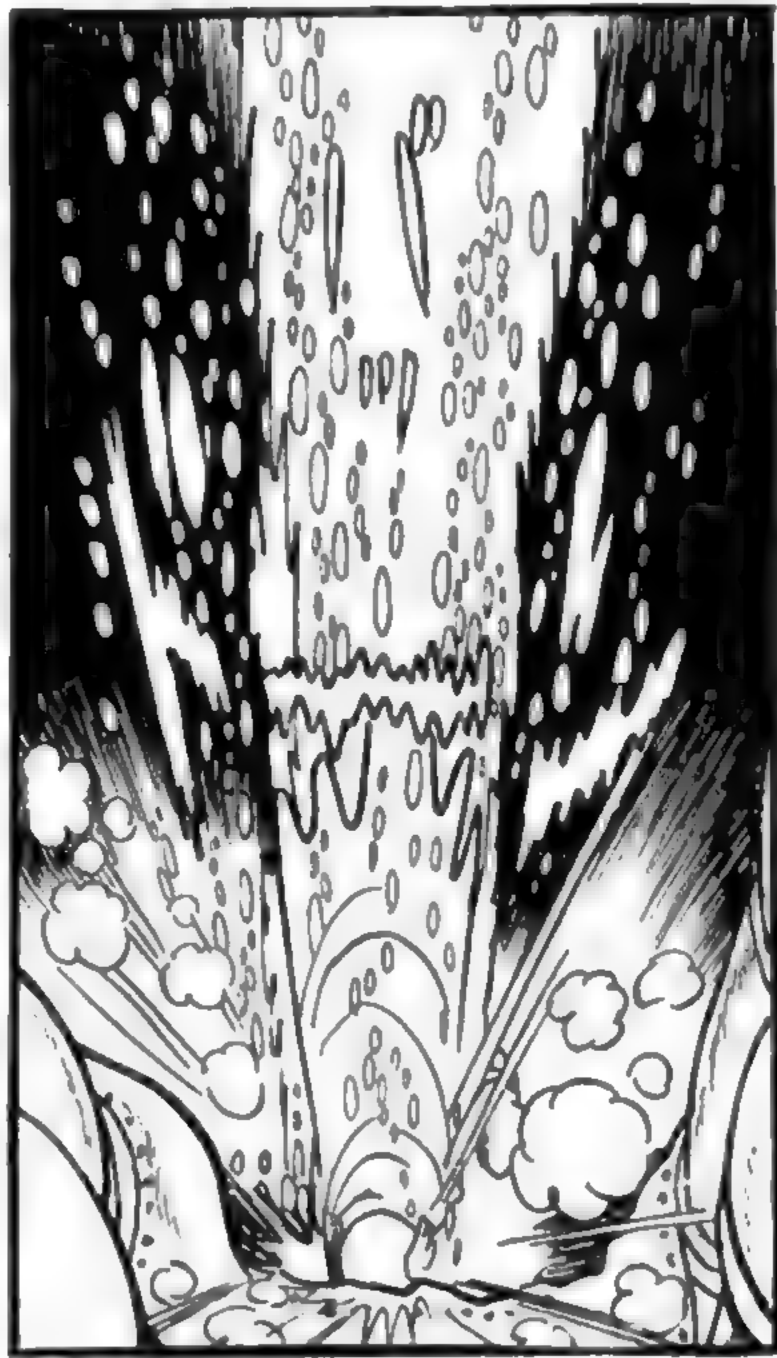



YAHH!

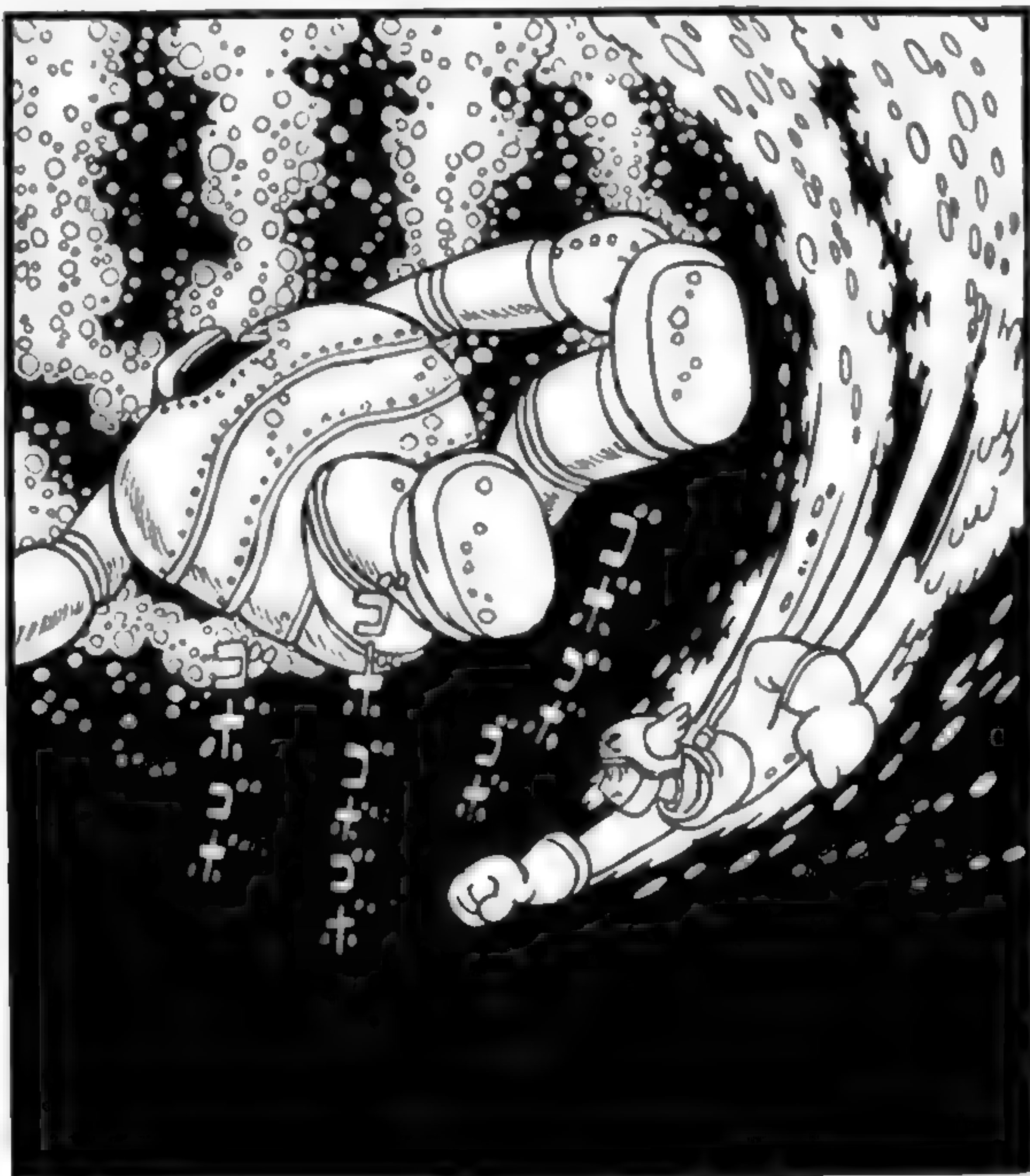

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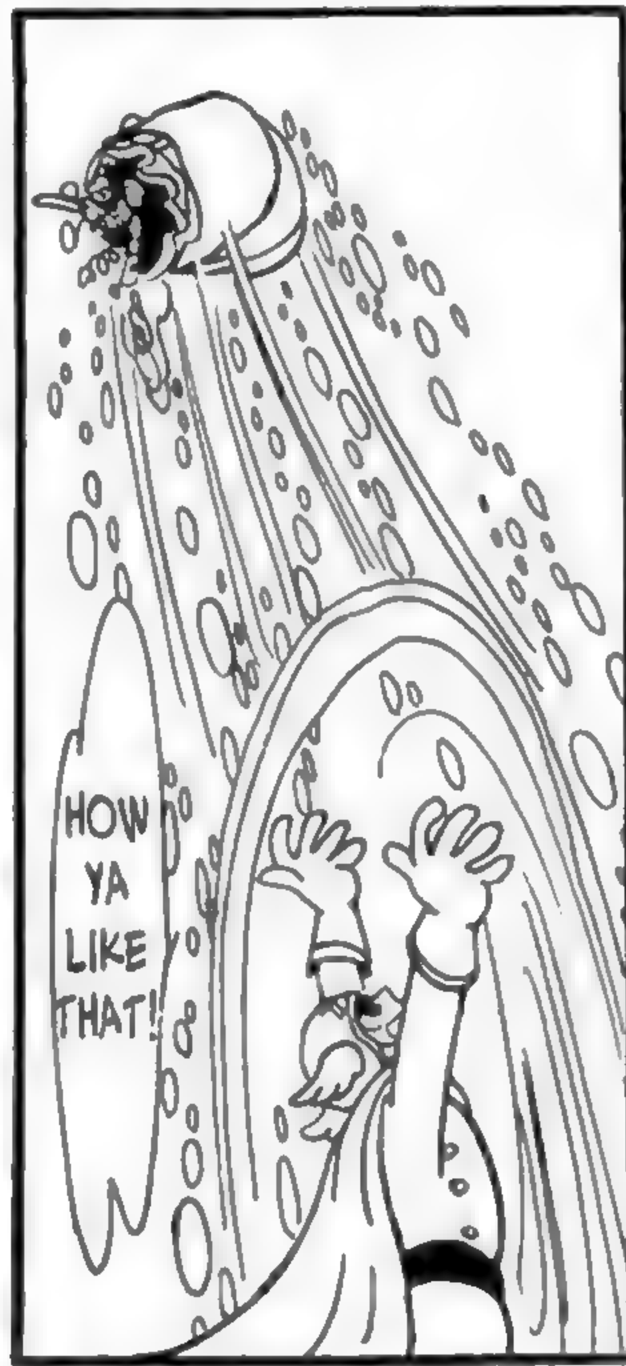



KERANG!



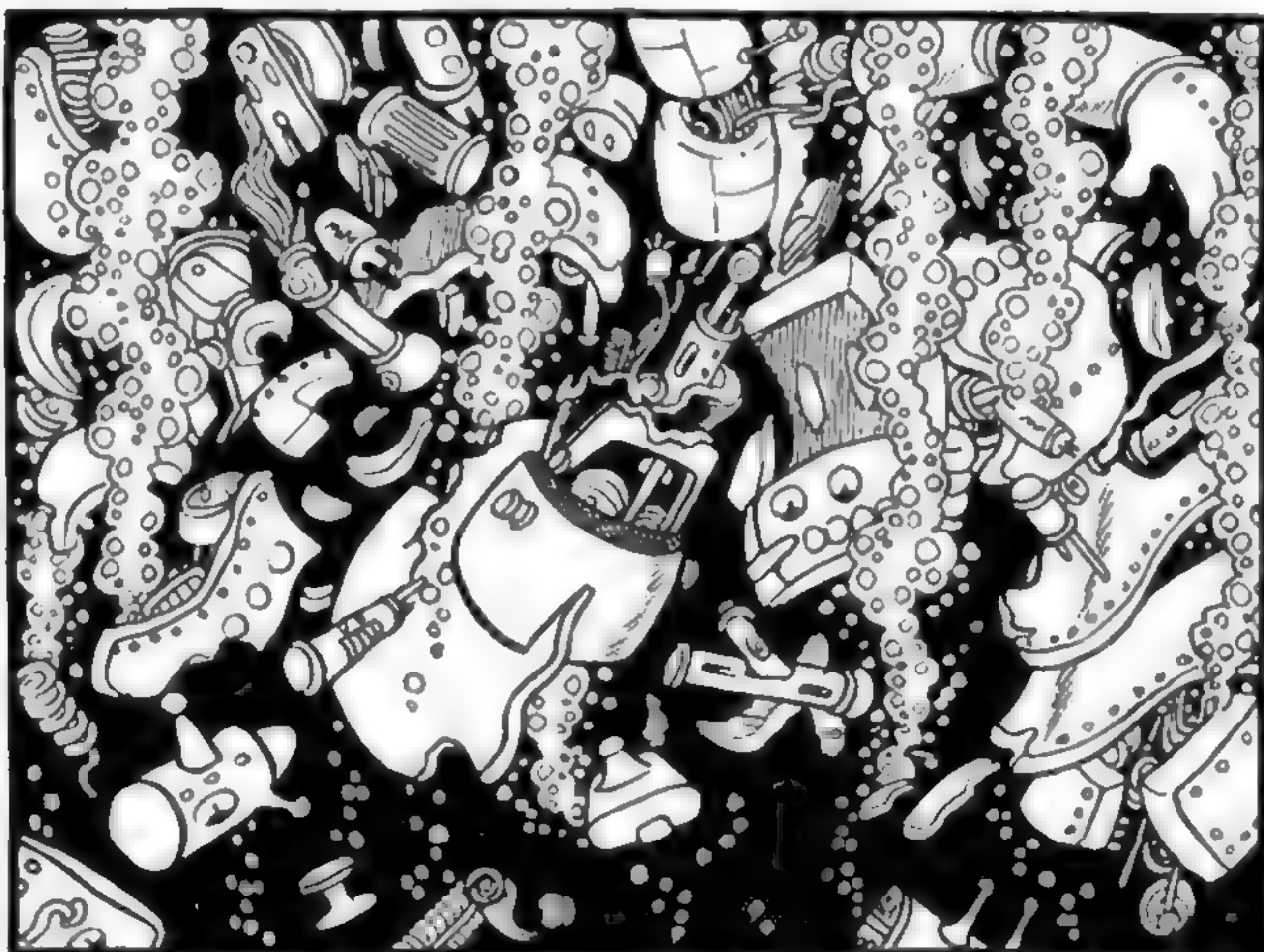
OKAY!

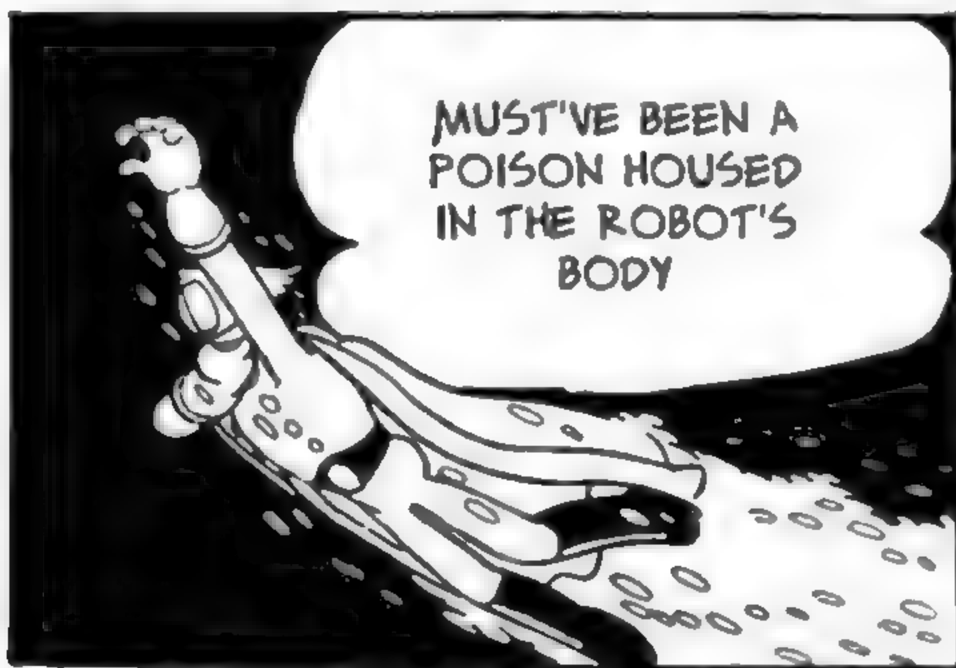







OHHH

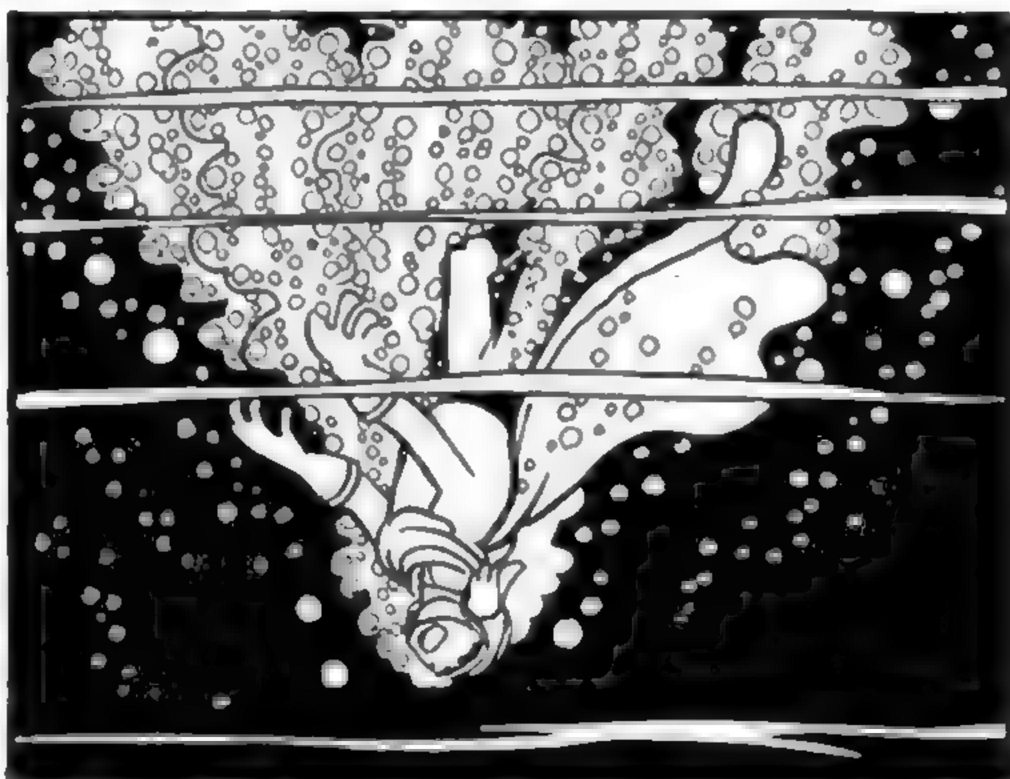


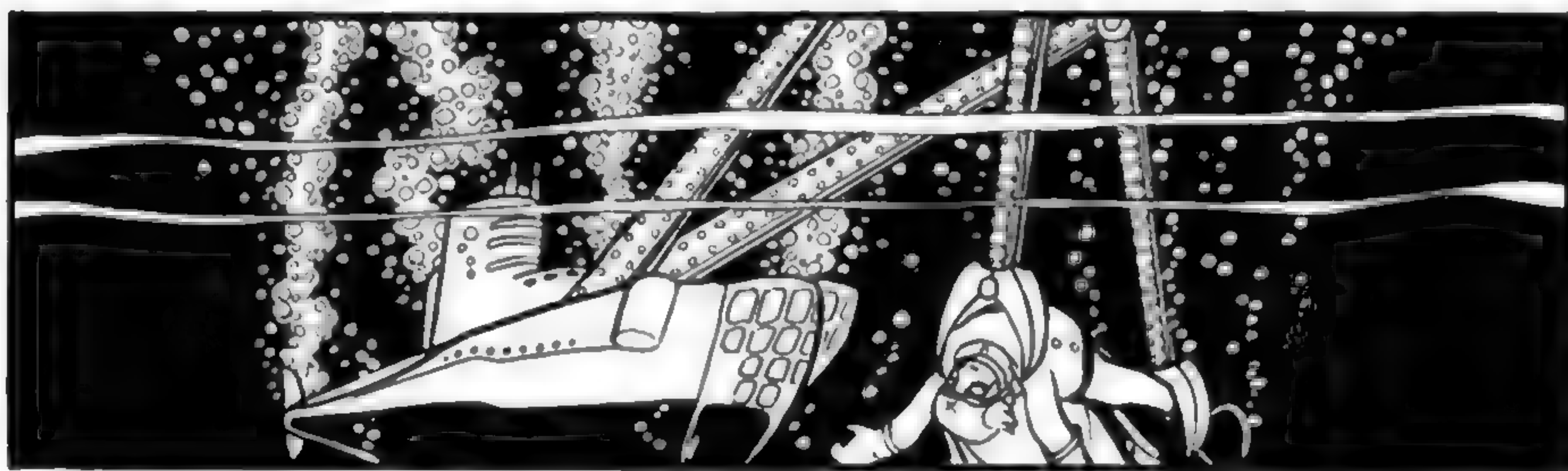

MUST'VE BEEN A POISON HOUSED IN THE ROBOT'S BODY

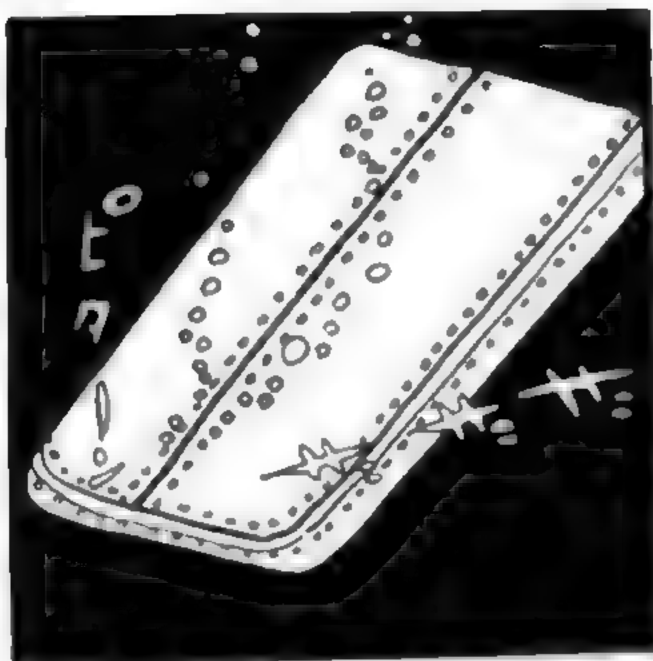

DAMN, THERE'S SOME KIND OF TOXIC FLUID IN THE WATER

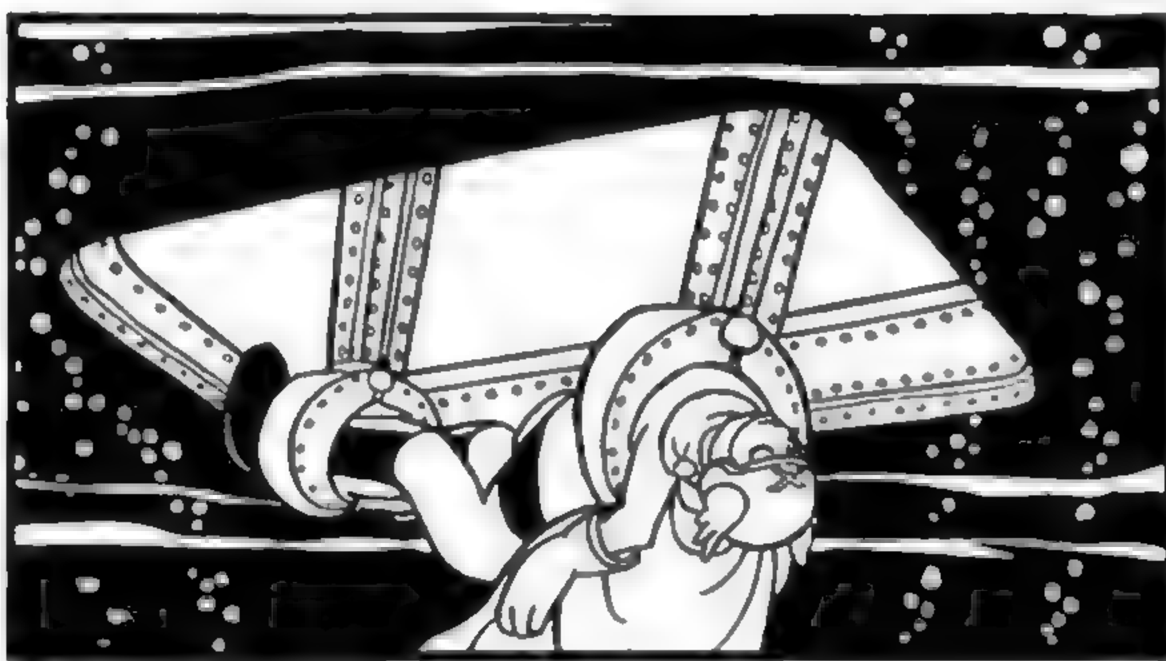


I'M SCREWED...
MY GOD...
THOSE EVIL..
..HAVE TO.. LIVE
CAN'T...UGH...







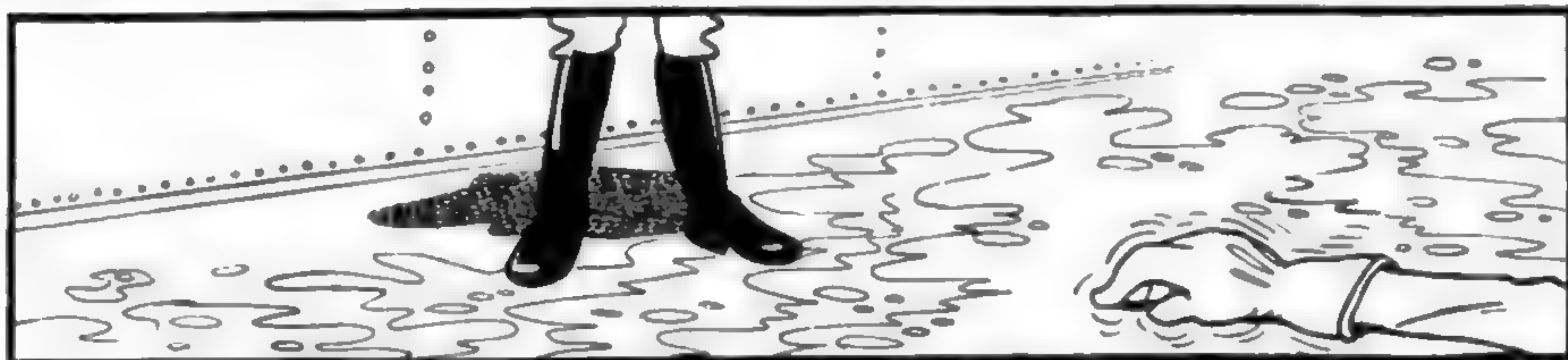






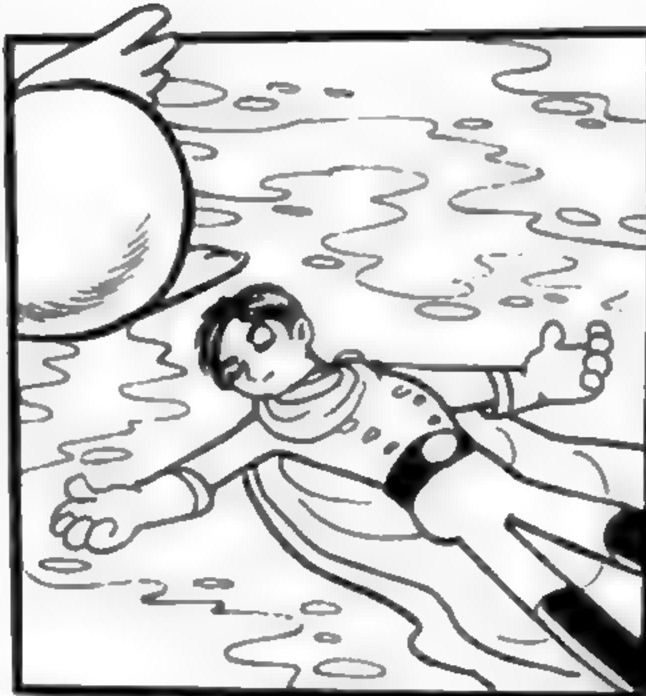




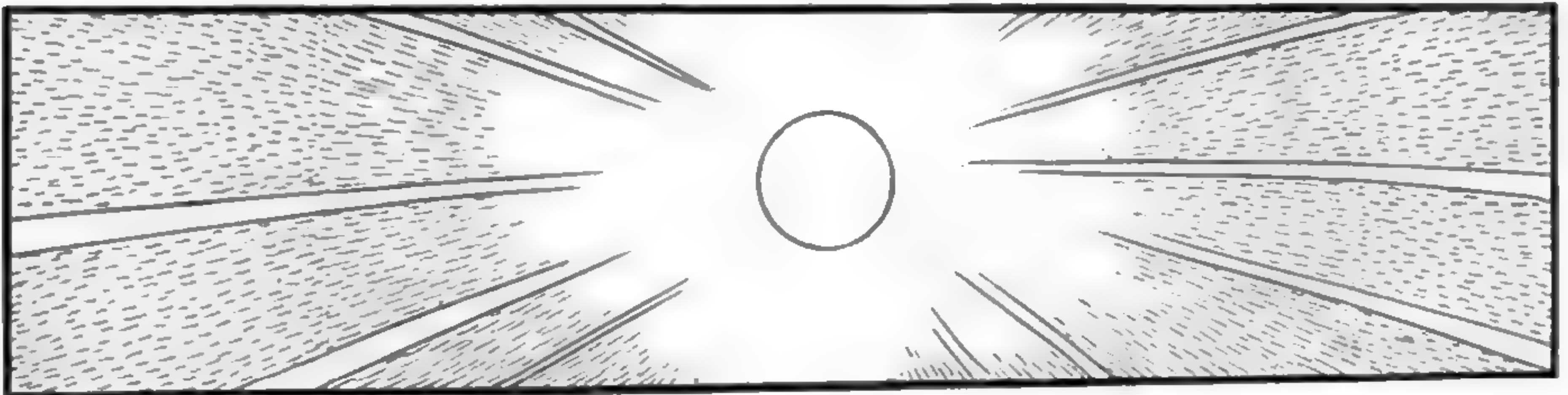



AH THE FISH THAT GOT CAUGHT IN OUR NET
THE SERUM IS WEARING OFF. HEHEHE

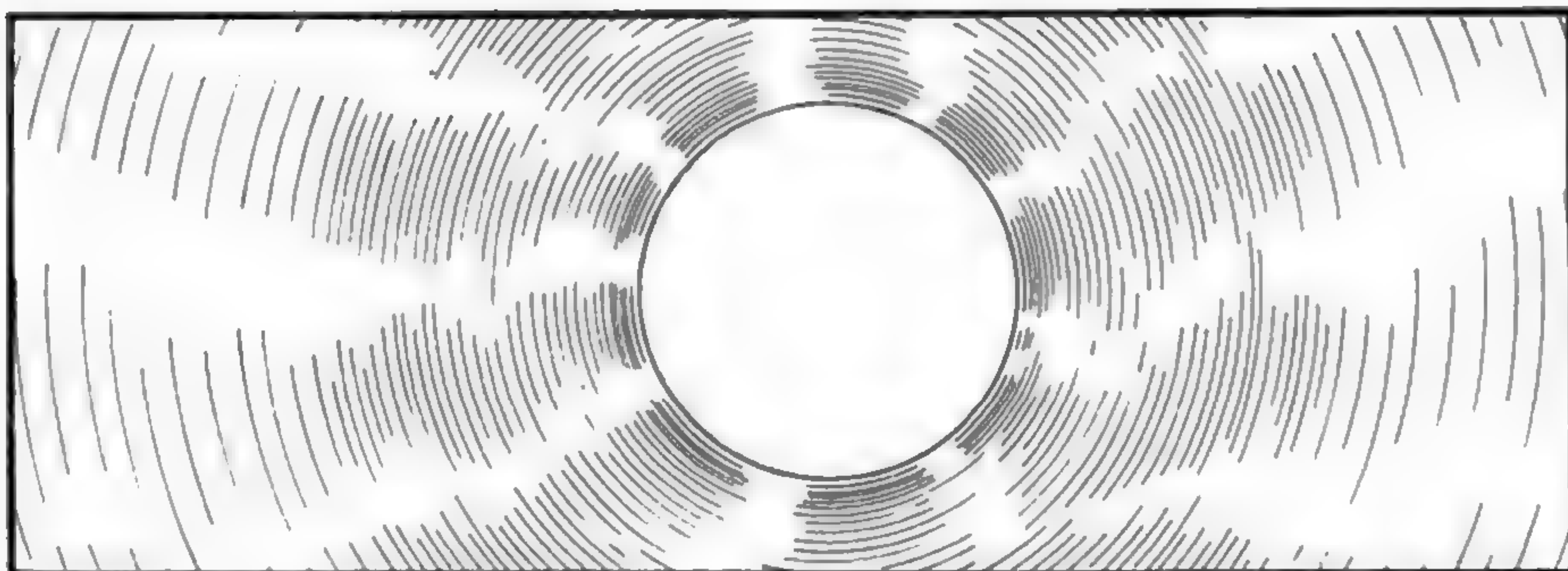


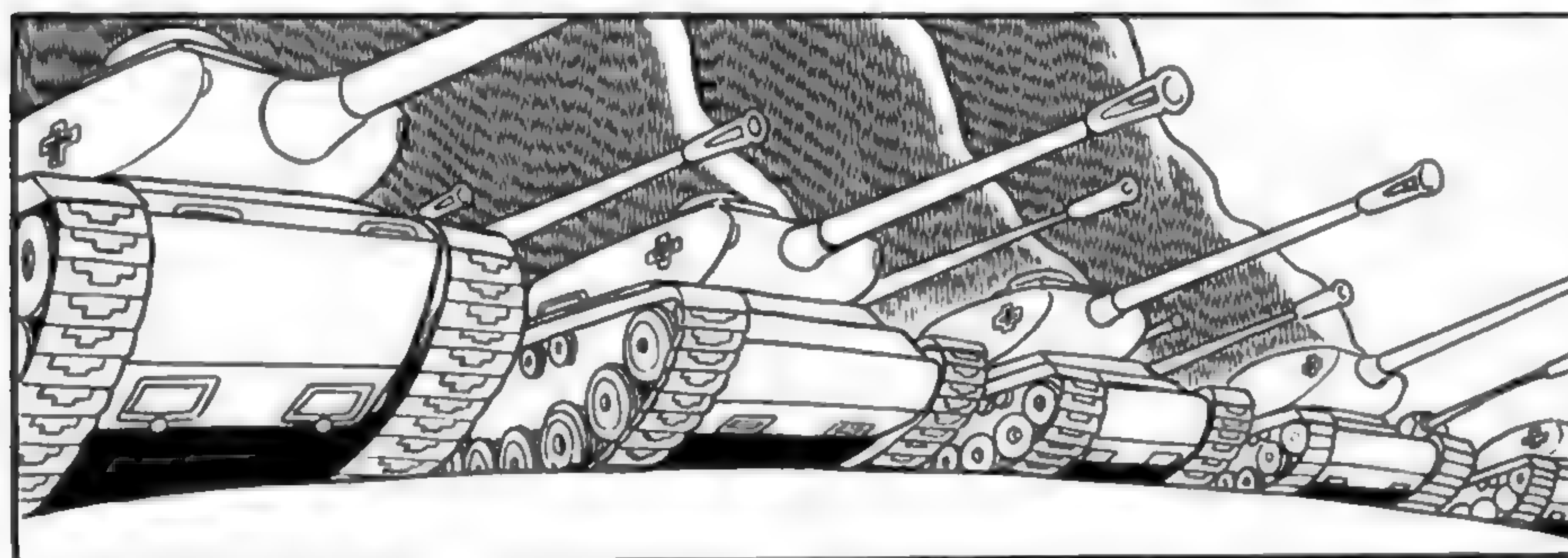


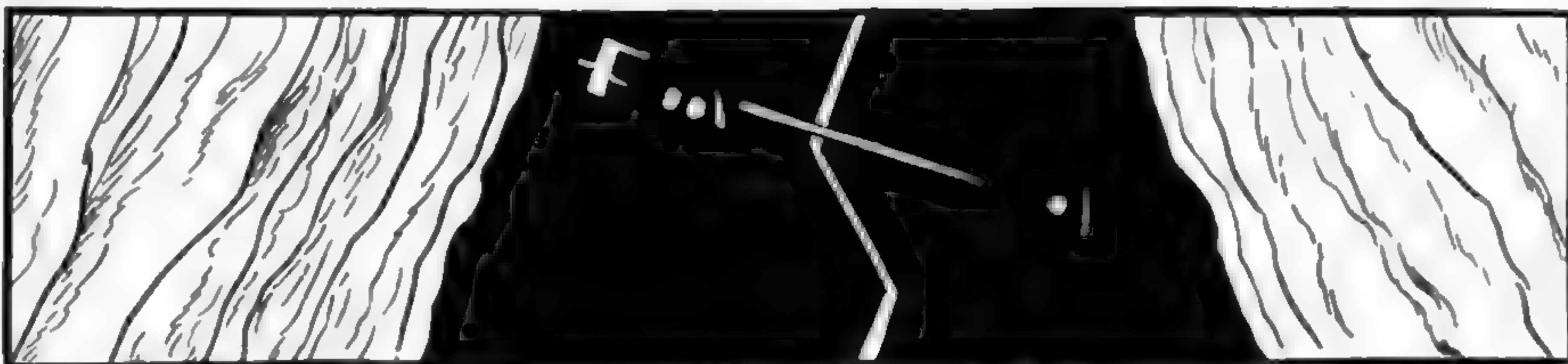

A BIG FISH THAT'S SMALL NOW. HA HA!

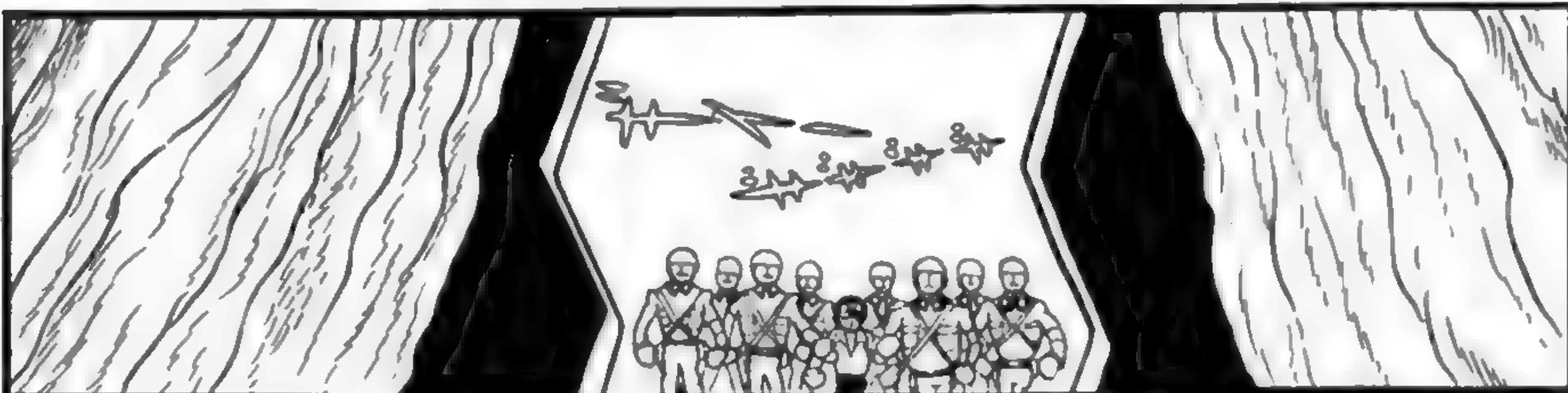


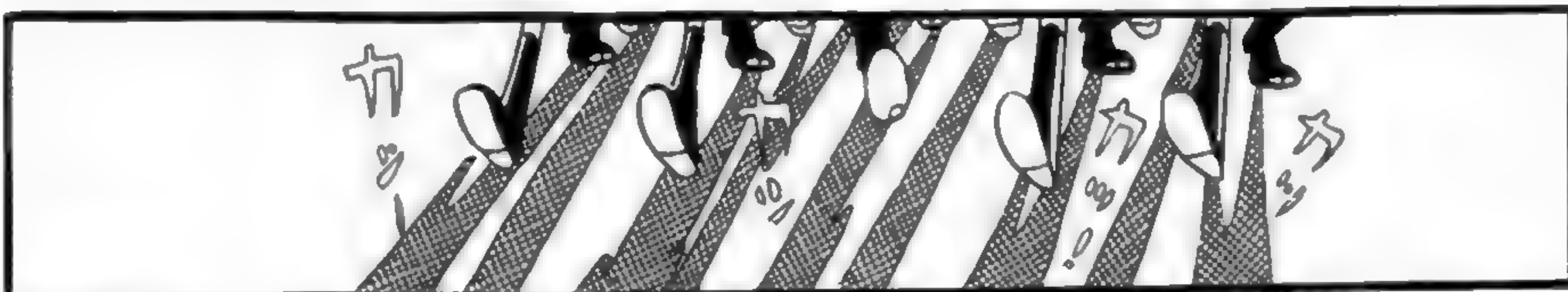
CHAPTER 4
PRISON AT THE END OF THE EARTH













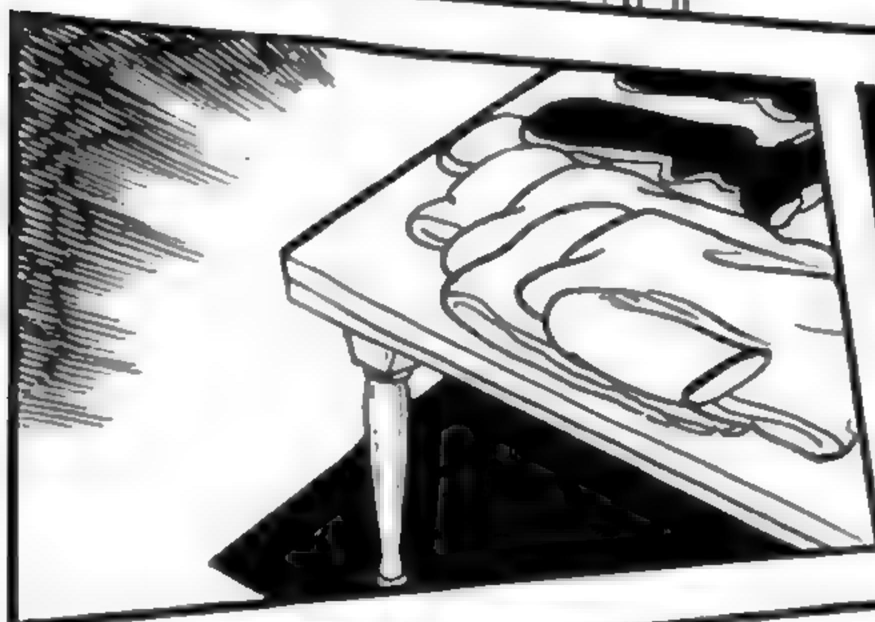



GET UP!

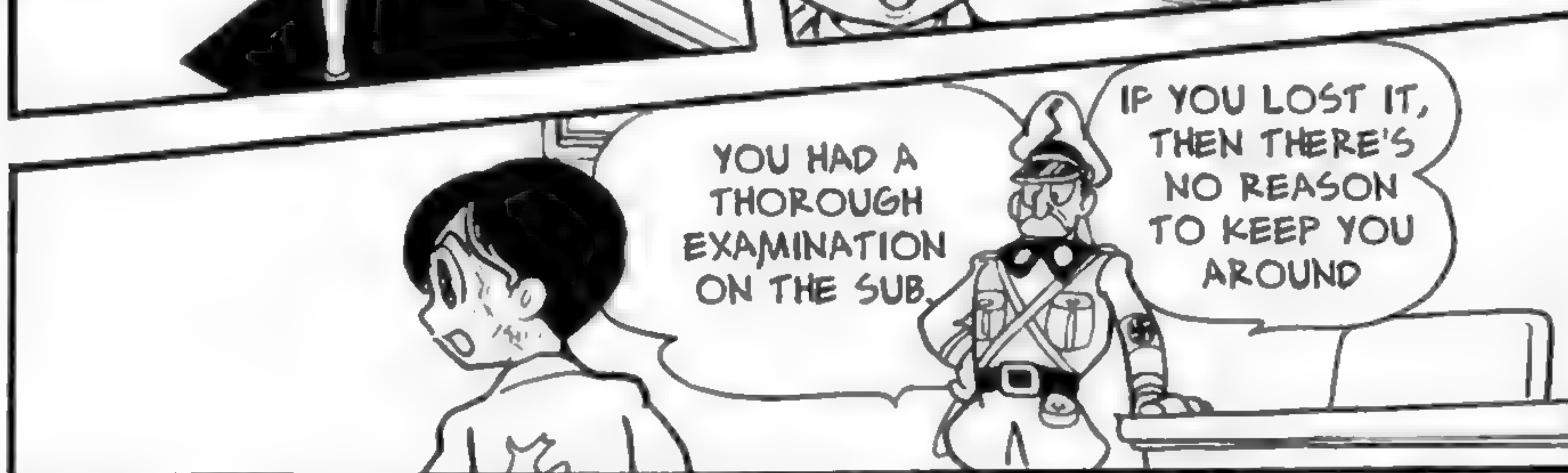

......


WHERE IS THE BIG X SERUM?

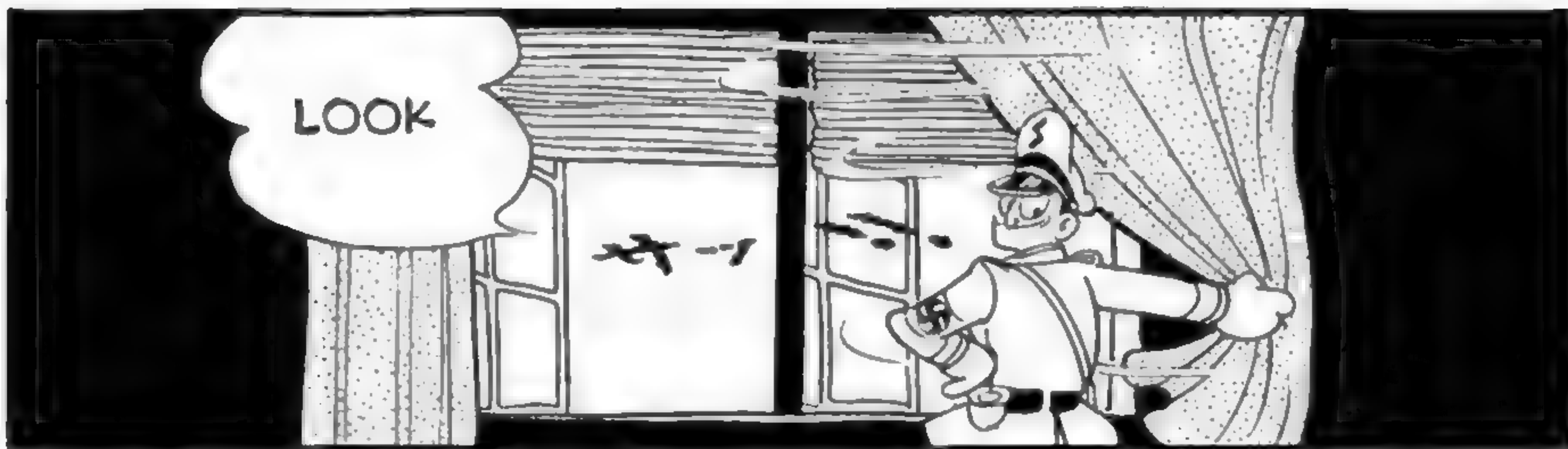

THAT'S MY CLOTHES THERE.




THERE'S NOTHING IN THEM

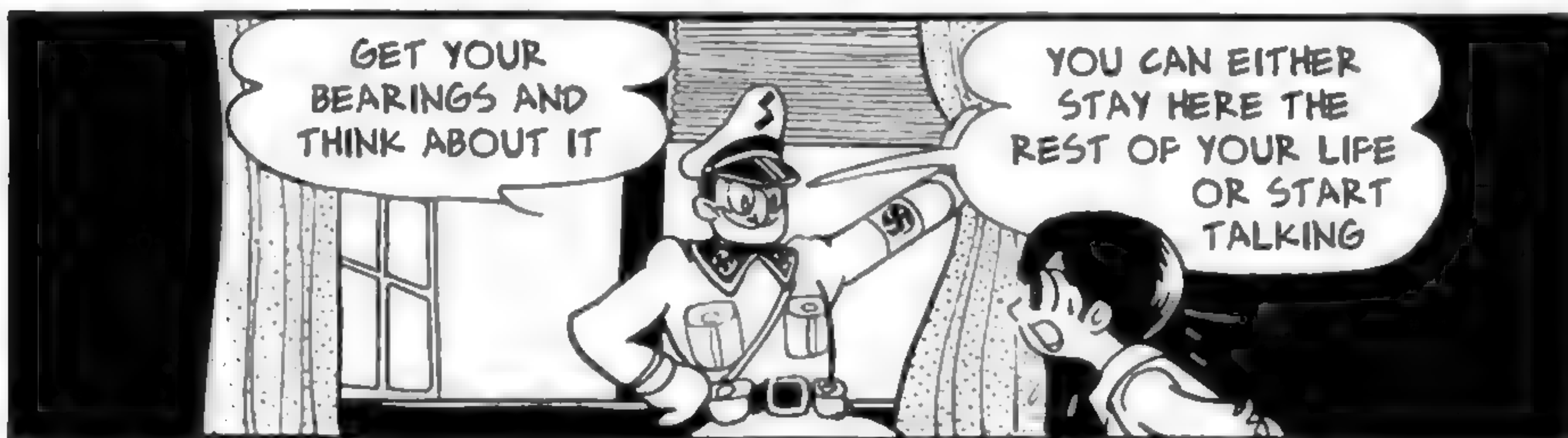

IF YOU LOST IT, THEN THERE'S NO REASON TO KEEP YOU AROUND
YOU HAD A THOROUGH EXAMINATION ON THE SUB.


AND THERE WAS NO BIG X SERUM ANYWHERE
WHERE? WHERE IS THE SERUM?!?

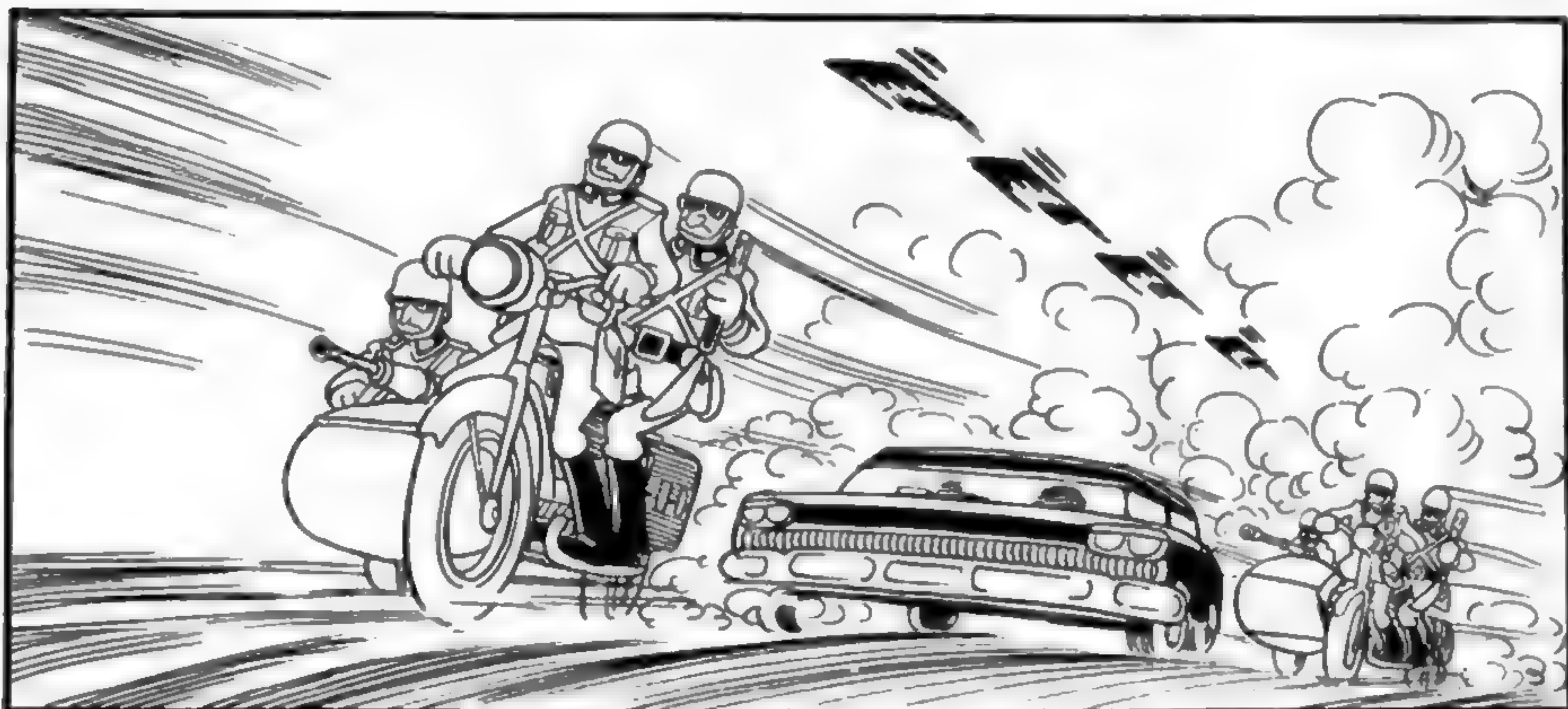

LOOK

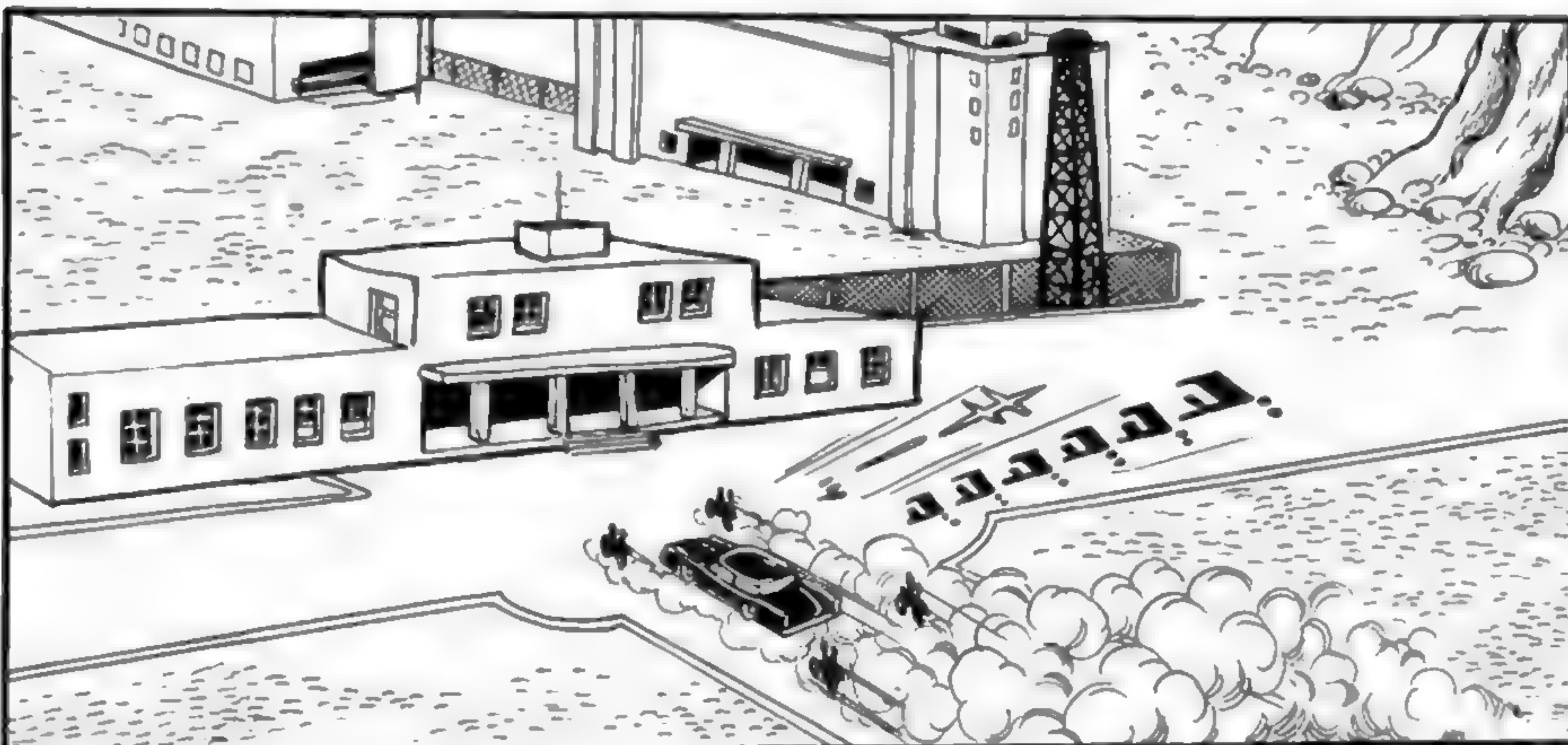

IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD HERE. EVEN IF YOU TRIED TO ESCAPE WE'RE IN ENDLESS DESERT


SURROUNDED BY SEA
YOU CAN SEE IT'S A TERRIBLE PLACE, RIGHT?


YOU CAN EITHER STAY HERE THE REST OF YOUR LIFE OR START TALKING
GET YOUR BEARINGS AND THINK ABOUT IT

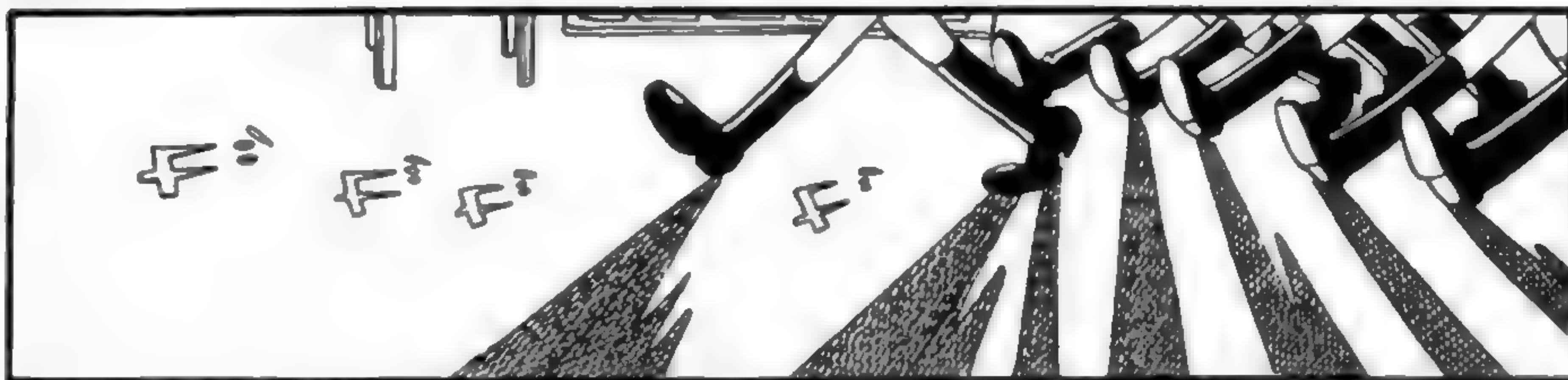


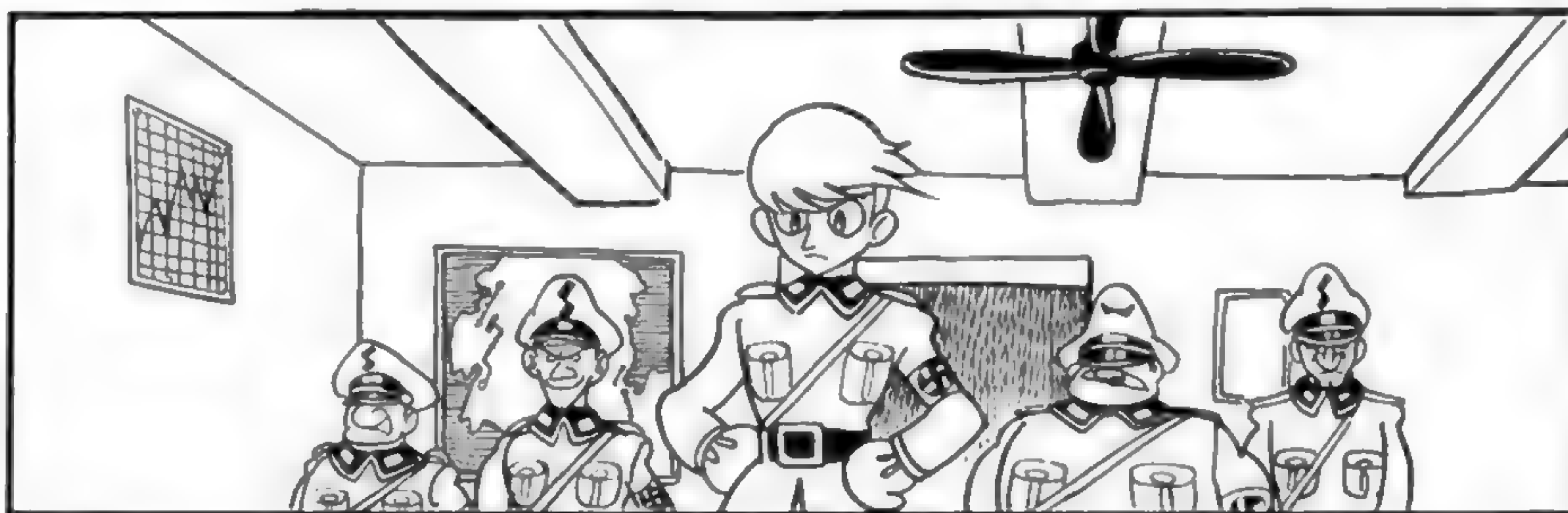


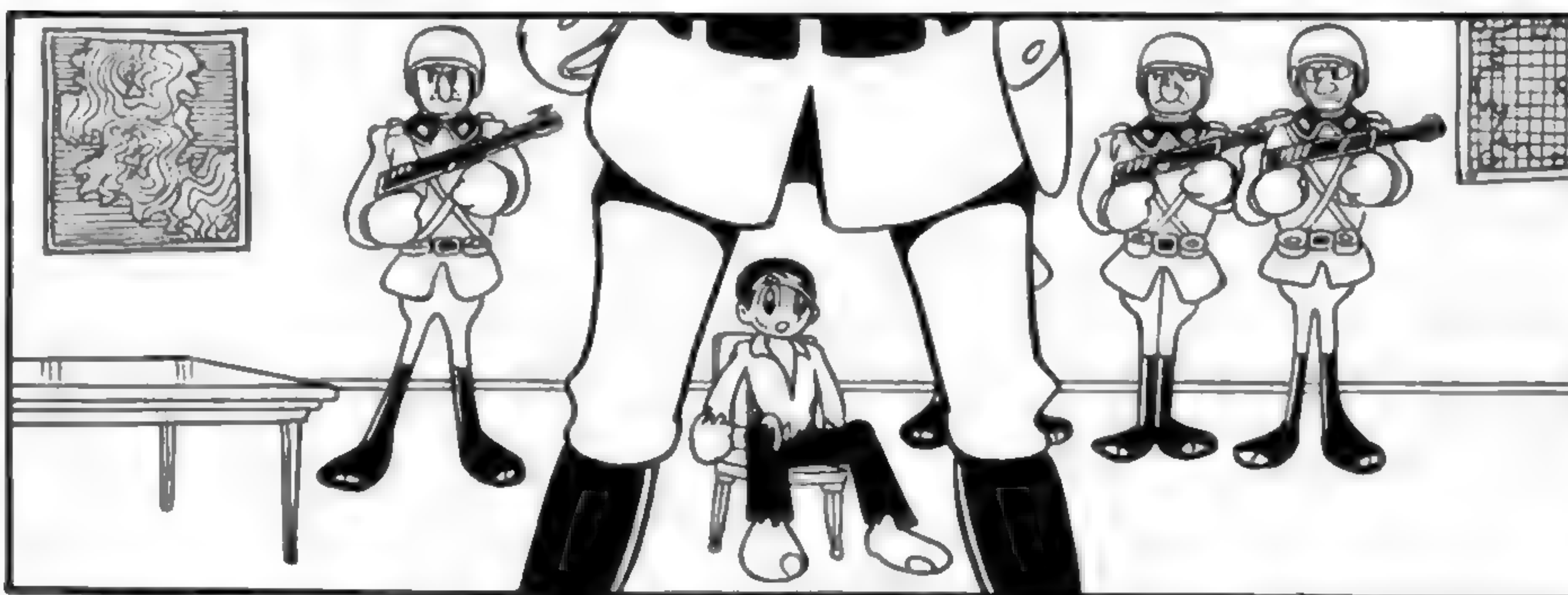



SALUTE!







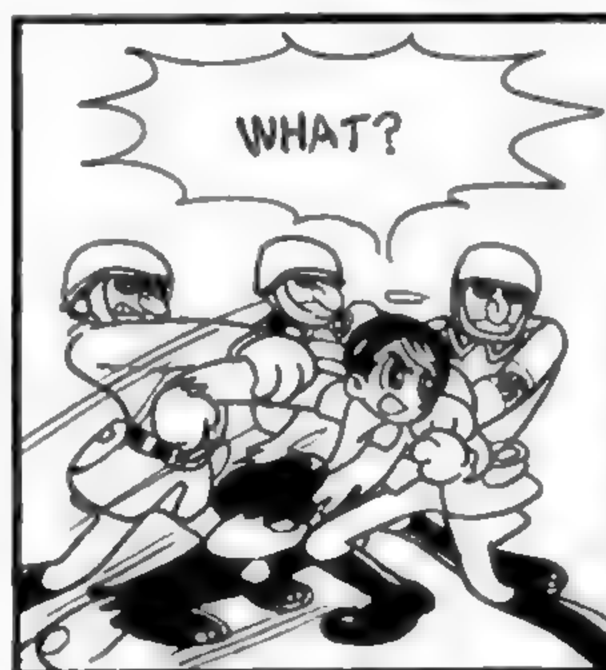





SHAME ON YOU!


WHO...
WHO ARE YOU?


I DON'T KNOW WHO THE HELL YOU ARE!


WHAT?


THAT'S RIGHT, GRANDSON OF DR. ENGEL WHO WORKED WITH YOUR GRANDFATHER ON BIG X.

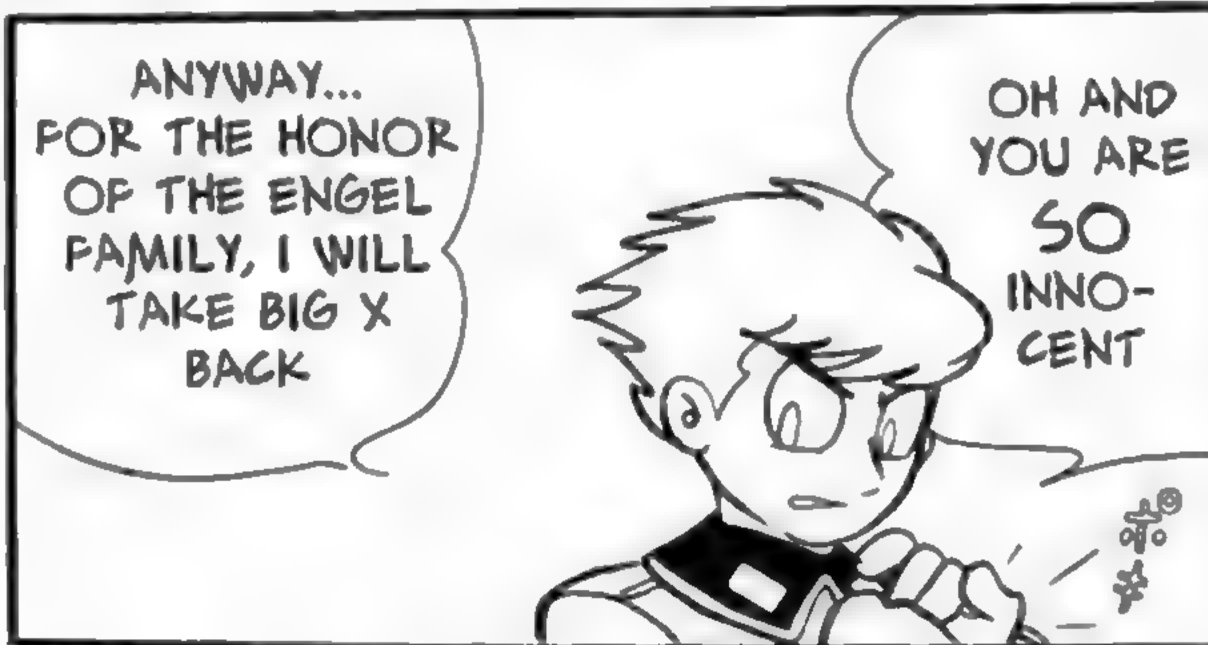

YOU WANNA KNOW? IT'S HANS ENGEL!


BUT YOUR GRAND-FATHER WAS A COWARD WHO RAN OFF. HIDING AWAY THE SECRET OF BIG X.

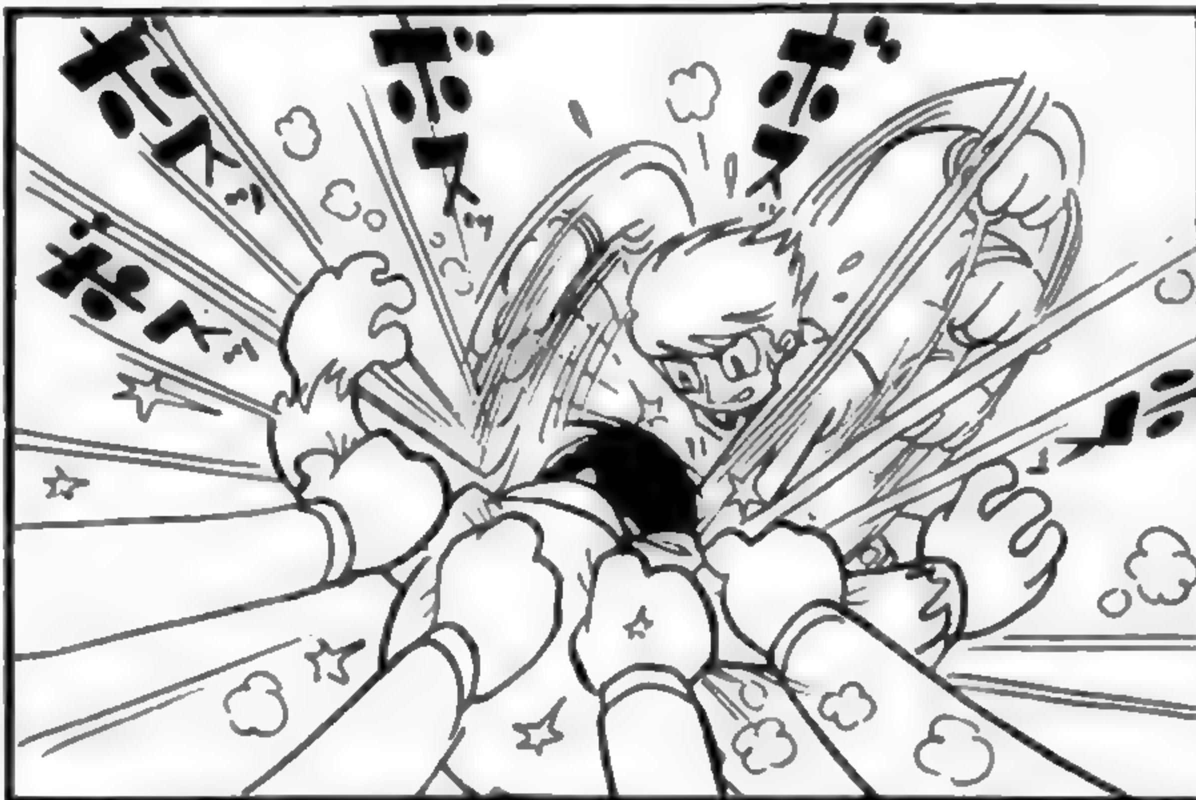

ENGEL? ....
WHAT?


HE DID'T STEAL IT!

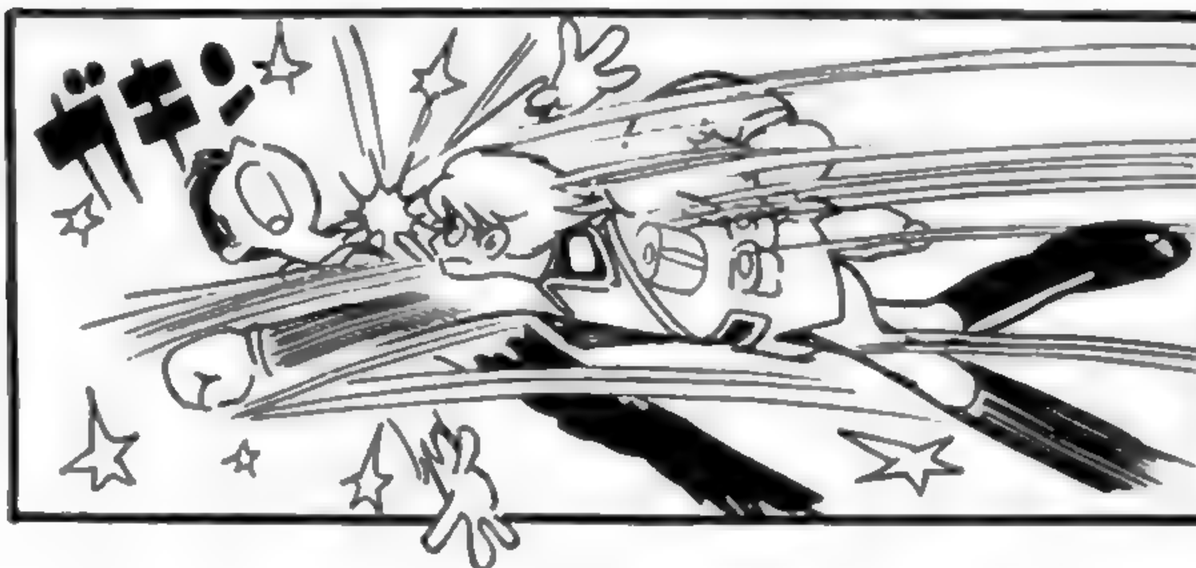

BECAUSE OF THAT MY GRAND-FATHER WAS SHOT DEAD


ANYWAY... FOR THE HONOR OF THE ENGEL FAMILY, I WILL TAKE BIG X BACK
OH AND YOU ARE SO INNO-CENT

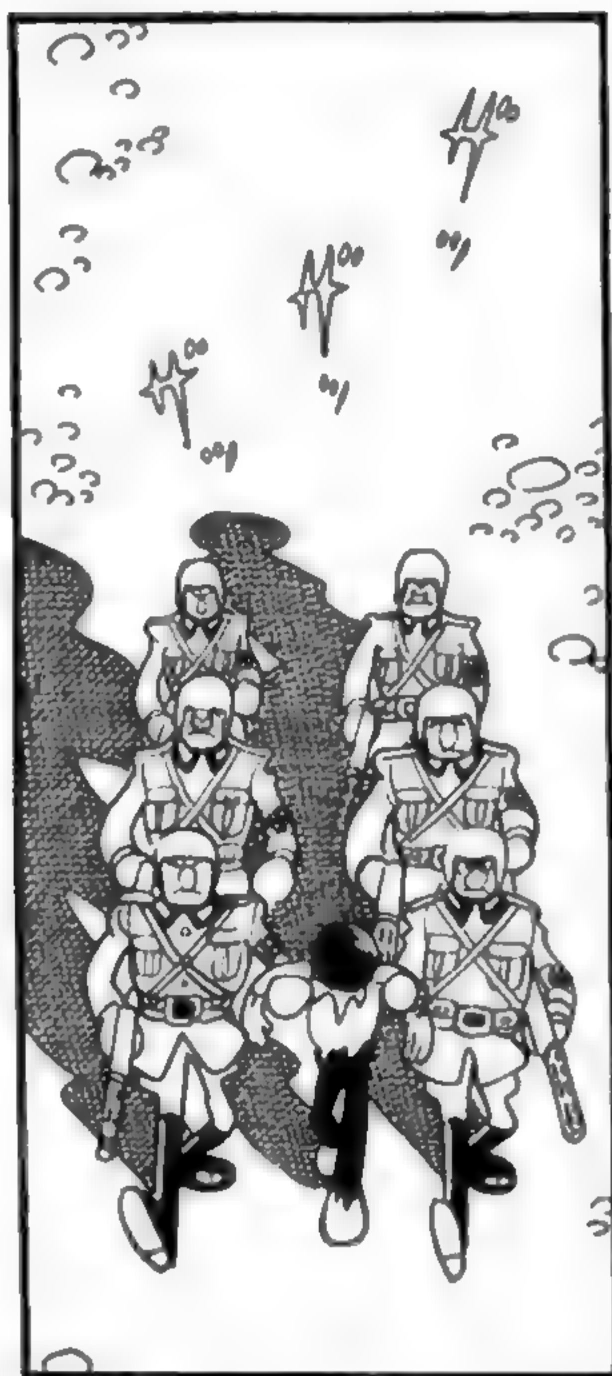

HE WAS HIDING IT TO PREVENT IT FROM BEING USED FOR EVIL

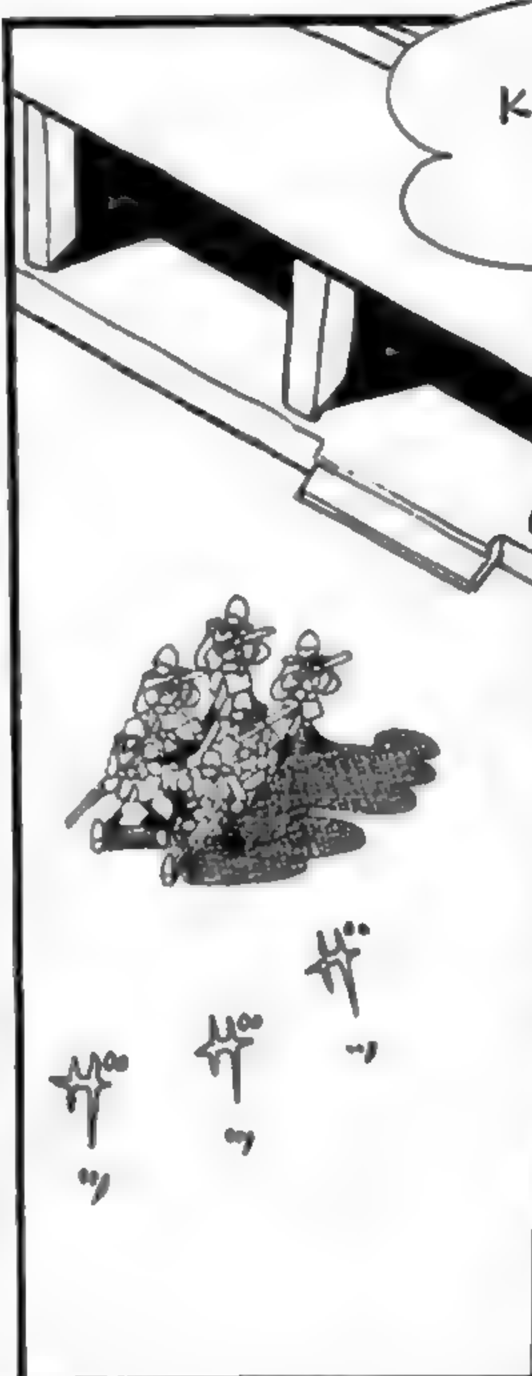



WHERE IS BIG X?


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HE HASN'T TOLD US YET



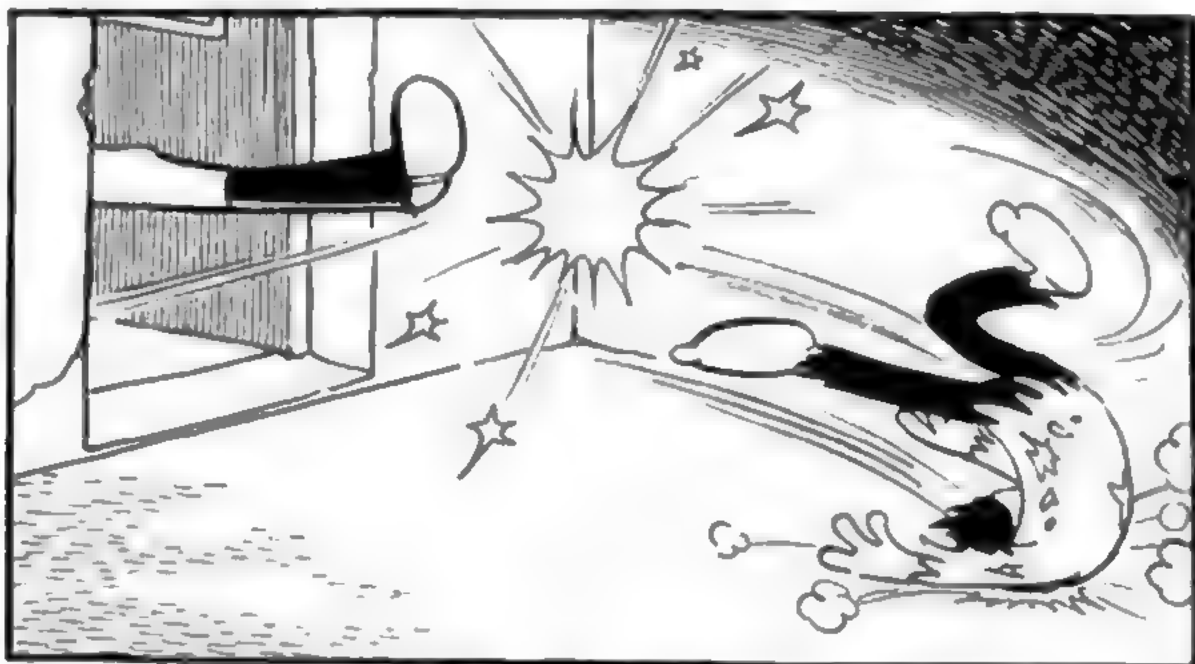


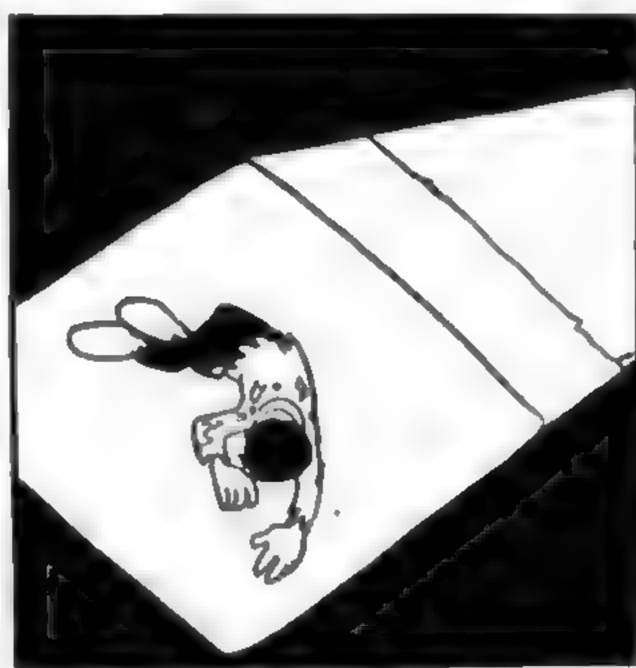

LET ME KNOW WHEN HE HAS TALKED








THIS SUCKS


WILL I BE HELD CAPTIVE BY THESE CREEPS FOREVER?
WHERE IS THIS PLACE?

WELL I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE THE SERUM IS
HE'S DR. ENGEL'S GRANDSON HUH..

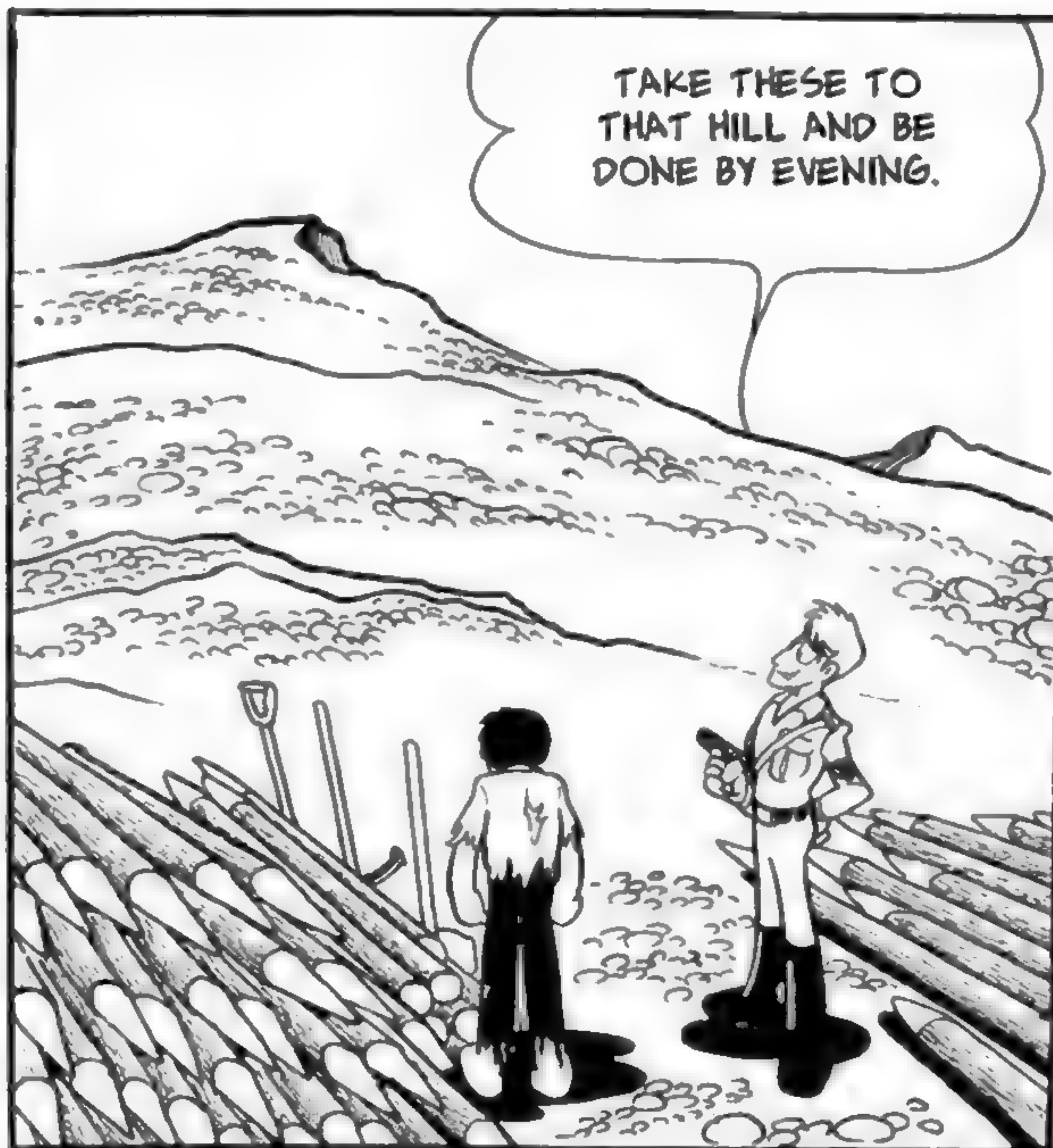



DAMN ....
YOU THINK YOU CAN BREAK ME?
I'LL FIGHT ANYTHING YOU CAN THROW AT ME


BUT WHY DOESN'T HE KNOW WHERE THE SERUM FOR BIG X IS?


DIDN'T THEY CATCH ON THAT THE PEN IS THE SERUM INJECTOR?
IT'S STRANGE THAT THEY MISSED IT.


MAYBE IT GOT LOST IN THE SEA?
IF SO, IT'S GONE FOREVER ....


TAKE THESE TO THAT HILL AND BE DONE BY EVENING.

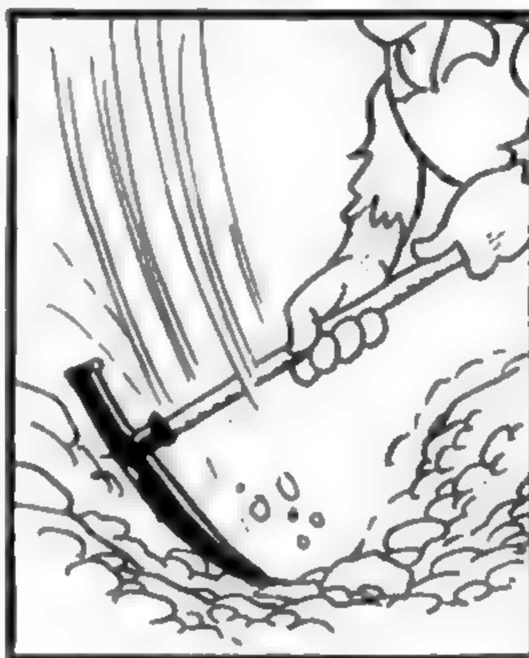

GET OUT


YOU'VE GOT A TASK!


DUM DE DUM DE DUMMM

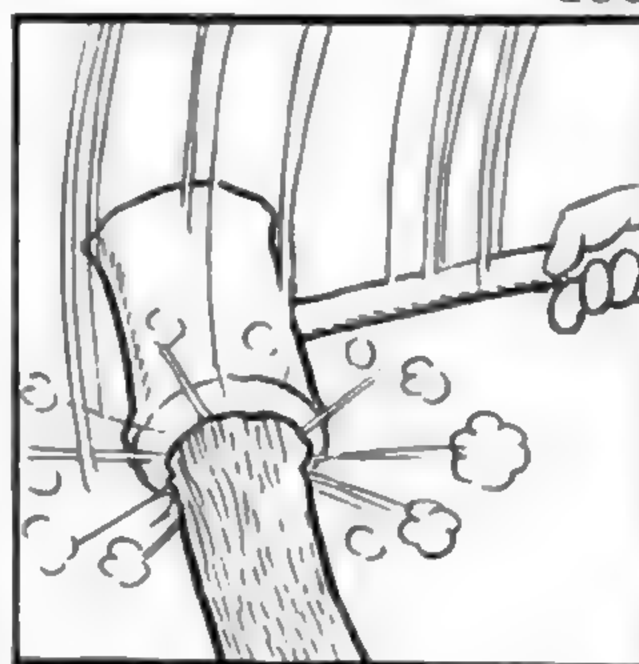

C'MON, SHOW ME HOW HEALTHY YOU ARE.








ONE
.....




DON'T OUTPACE YOURSELF


OOOF
.....


I'M DONE
YOU'RE DONE ARE YOU?



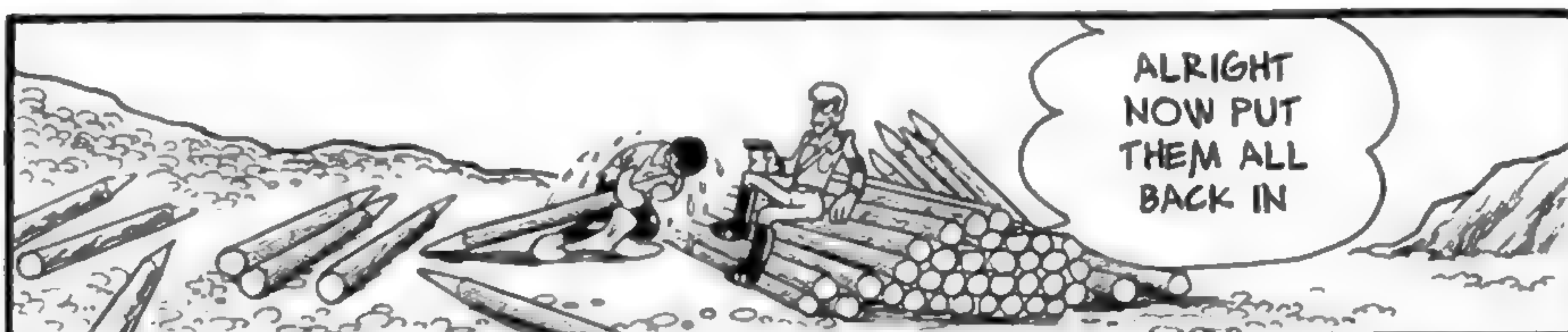




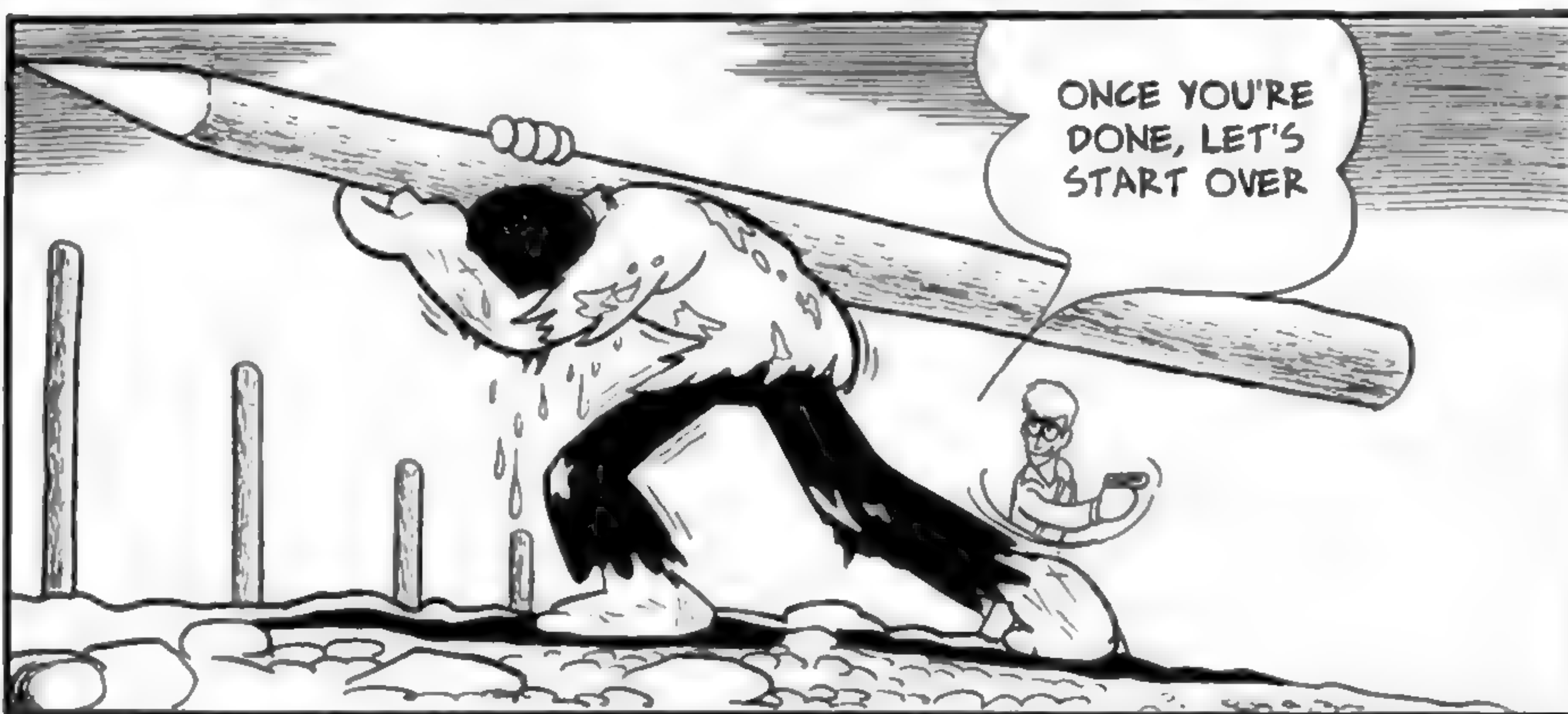

I JUST NOW PUT THEM ALL UP! WHAT'S THE POINT?
JUST DO AS YOU'RE TOLD OR YOU'LL END UP IN THE GROUND TOO!

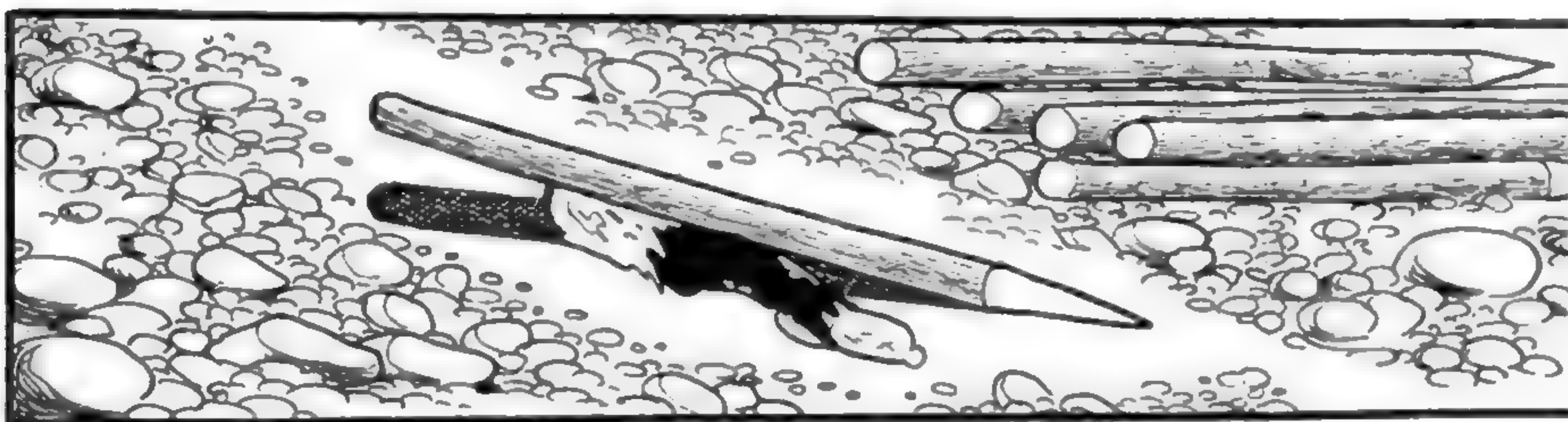

PULL ALL THOSE STAKES OUT AND STACK EM HERE
WHAT ??


PULL THEM ALL OUT

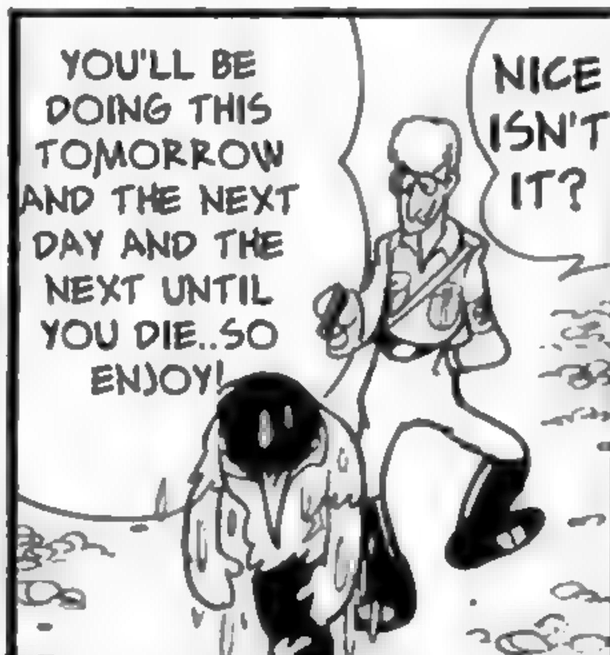

ALRIGHT NOW PUT THEM ALL BACK IN


OKAY, OUT AGAIN!


ONCE YOU'RE DONE, LET'S START OVER



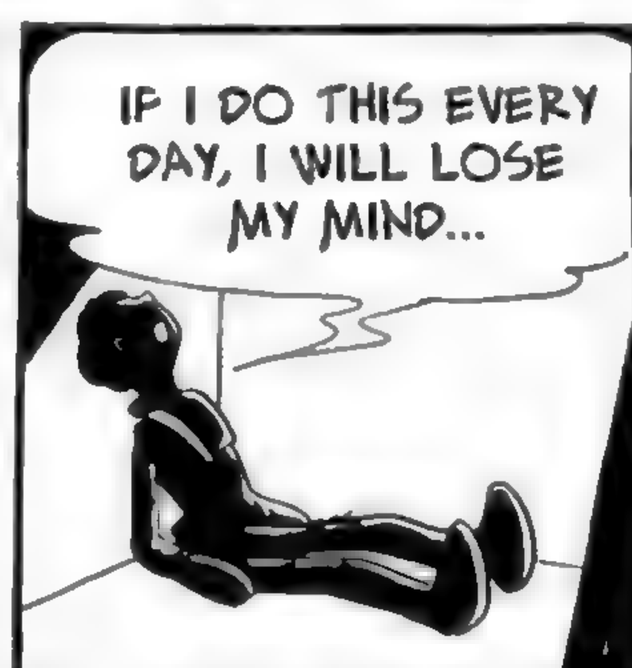



YOU'LL BE DOING THIS TOMORROW AND THE NEXT DAY AND THE NEXT UNTIL YOU DIE..SO ENJOY!
NICE ISN'T IT?

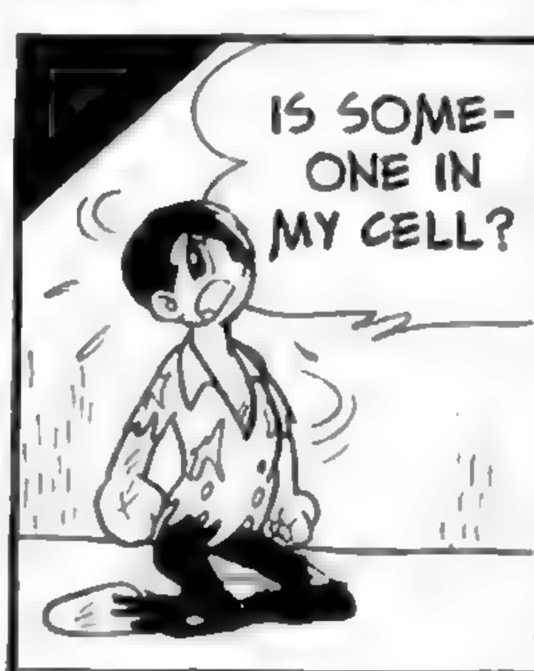

WAKE UP AND DRINK SOME MUDDY WATER!


WHO... WHO SAID THAT?

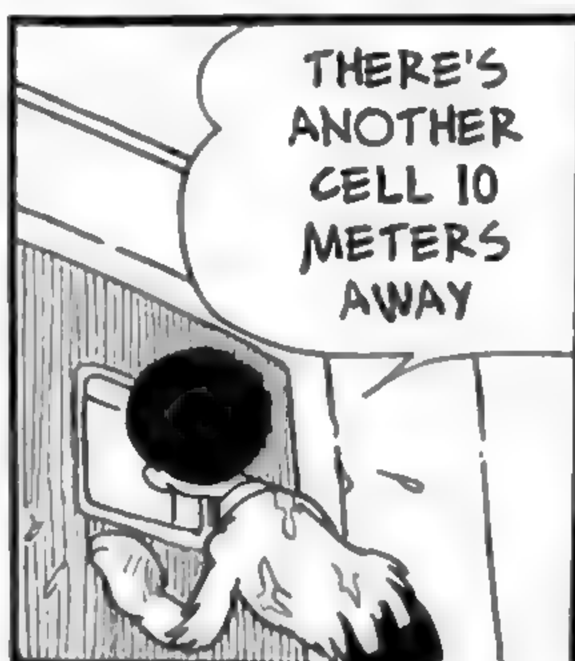

I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT...

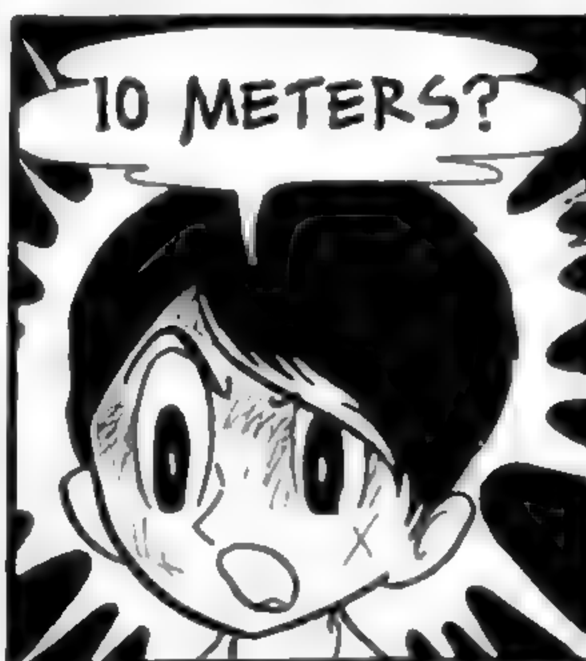

IF I DO THIS EVERY DAY, I WILL LOSE MY MIND...


I'M TALKING TO YOU FROM ANOTHER ROOM


IS SOME-ONE IN MY CELL?

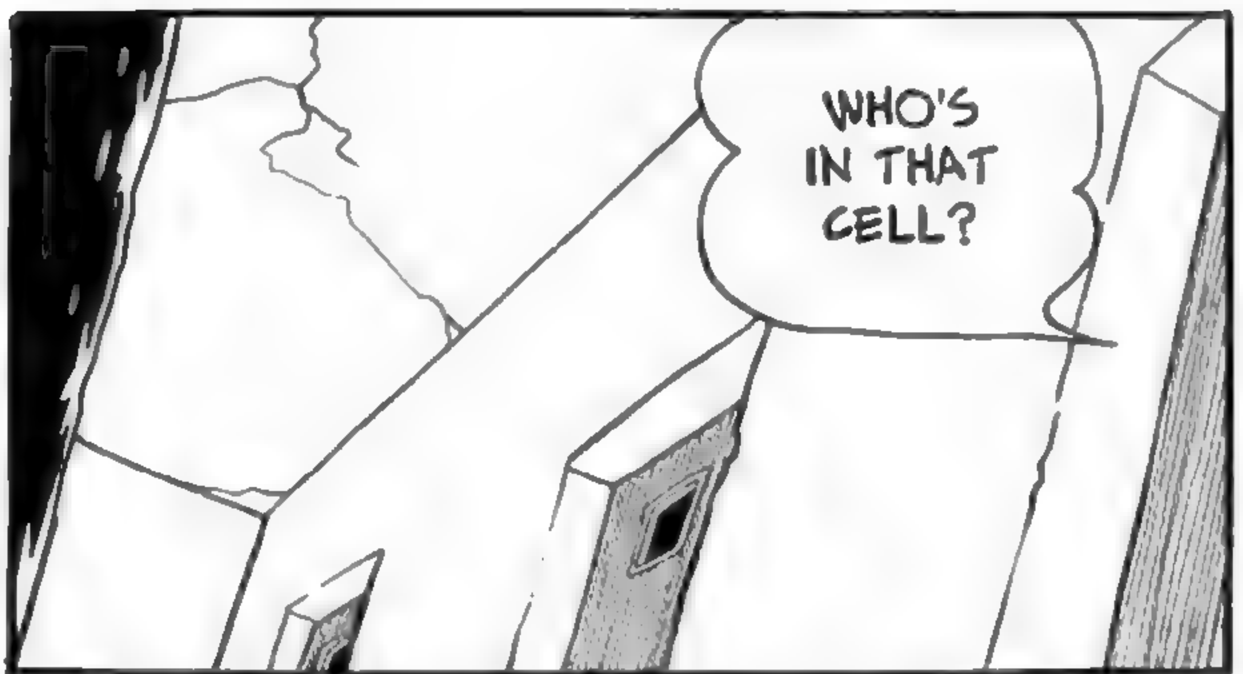

IT'S NOT A DREAM
AM I DREAM-ING?

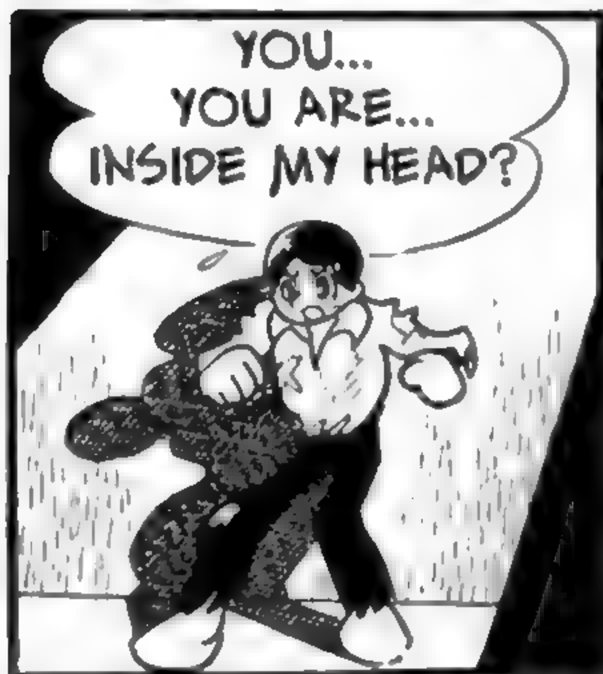

THERE'S ANOTHER CELL 10 METERS AWAY

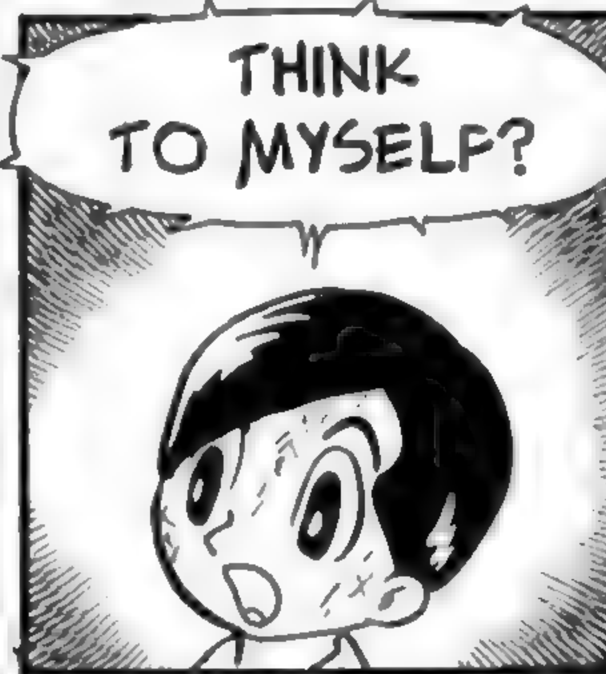

10 METERS?

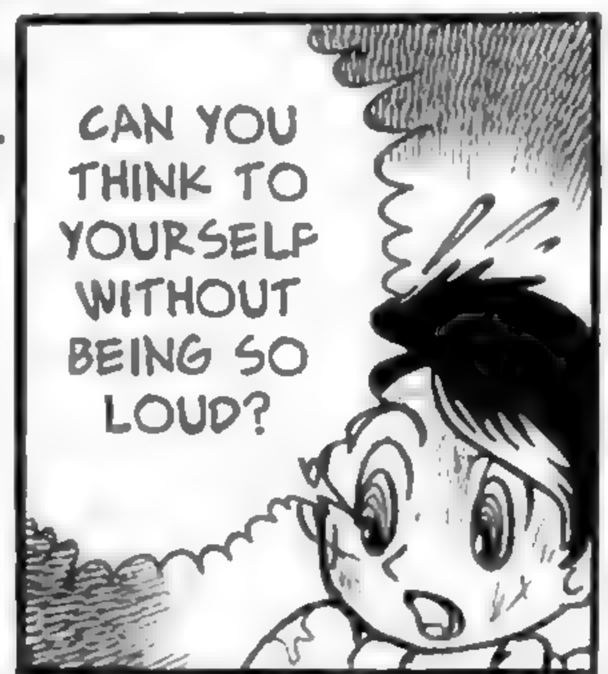

I'M 10 METERS FROM YOUR ROOM
WHAT IS THIS ?


IS THERE ANYONE THERE?


WHO'S IN THAT CELL?

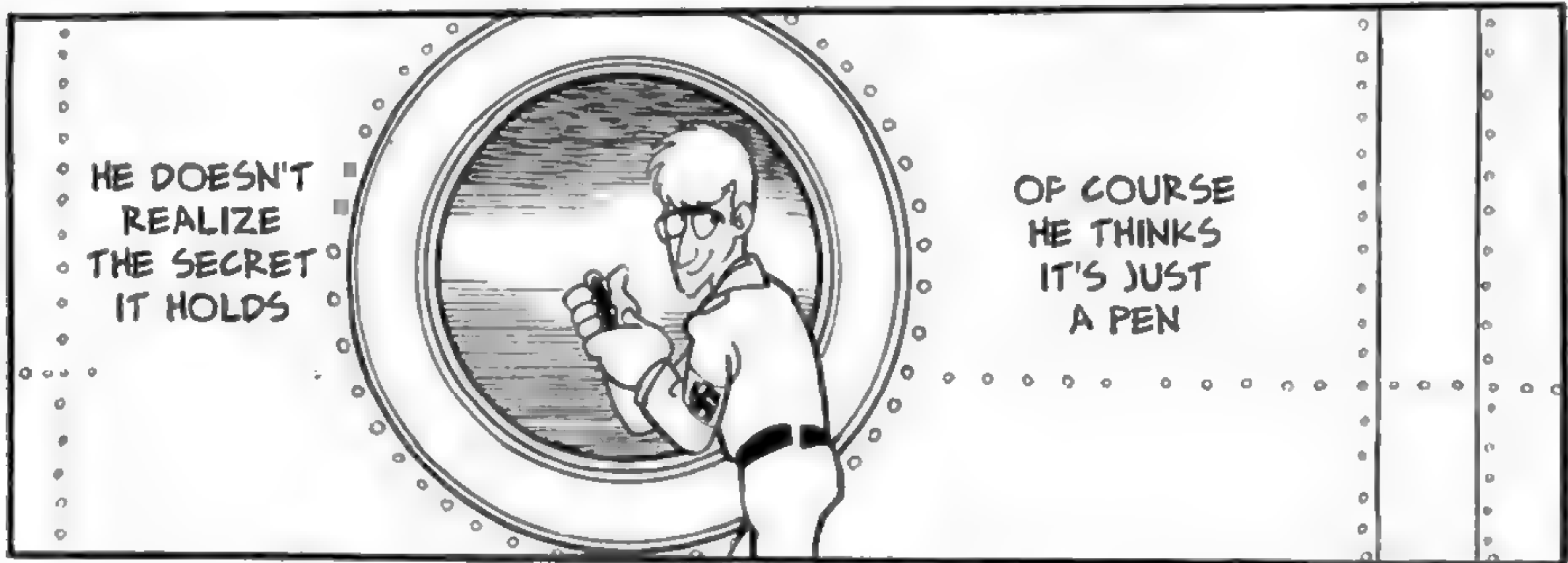

YOU... YOU ARE... INSIDE MY HEAD?


THINK TO MYSELF?


CAN YOU THINK TO YOURSELF WITHOUT BEING SO LOUD?


SHHH
THE INJECTOR YOU ARE LOOKING FOR. SOMEONE HAS IT

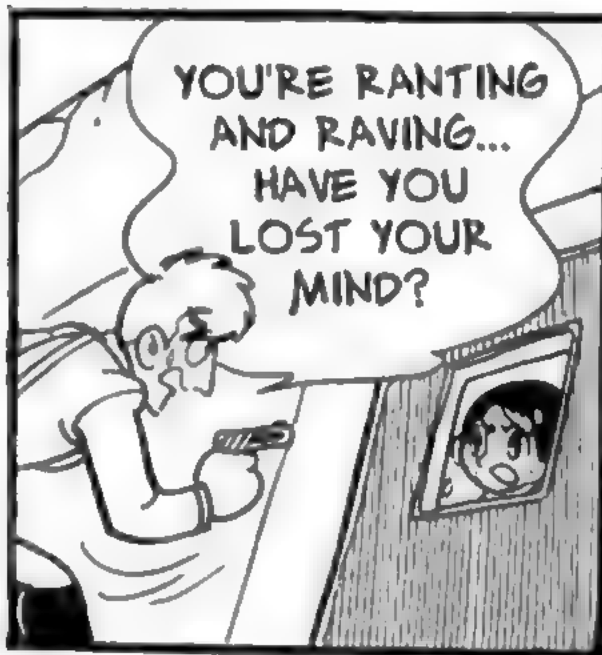

WHAT?
WHEN YOU WERE DRAGGED OUT OF THE WATER...
THEY INSPECTED YOUR CLOTHES AND IT WAS STOLEN.

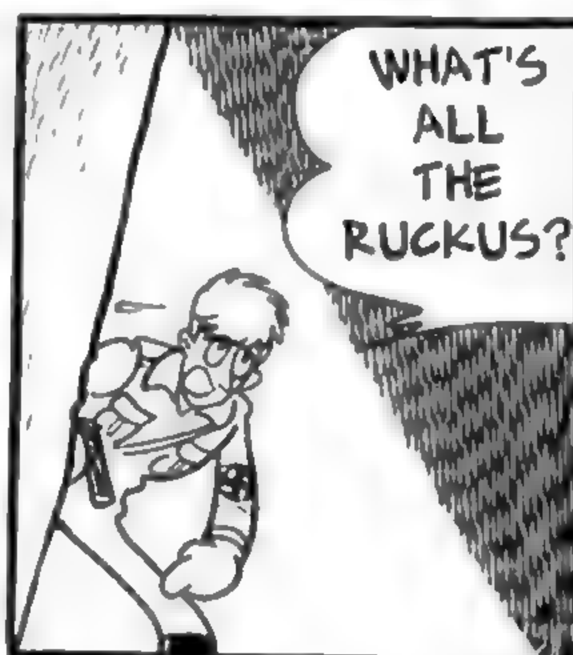

HE DOESN'T REALIZE THE SECRET IT HOLDS
OF COURSE HE THINKS IT'S JUST A PEN


YOU!


RIGHT? COME ON, SAY SOMETHING!


THERE'S NO WAY HE'D KNOW!


YOU'RE RANTING AND RAVING... HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND?

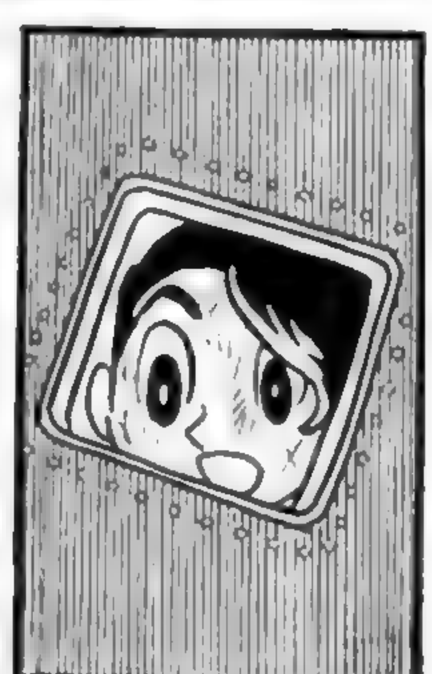

WHAT'S ALL THE RUCKUS?

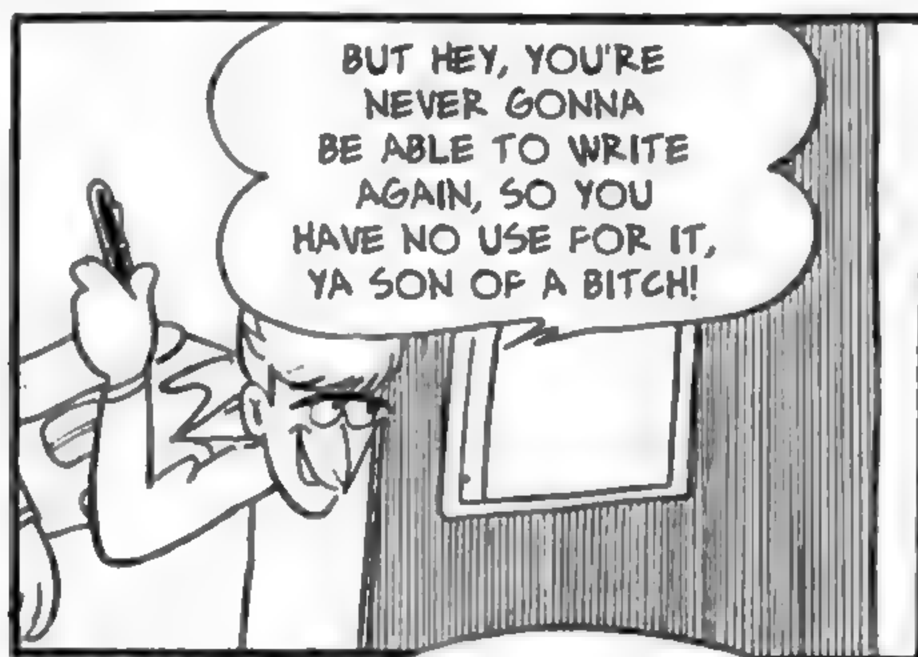



THAT'S MY PEN!


AH! THAT'S IT!






BUT HEY, YOU'RE NEVER GONNA BE ABLE TO WRITE AGAIN, SO YOU HAVE NO USE FOR IT, YA SON OF A BITCH!

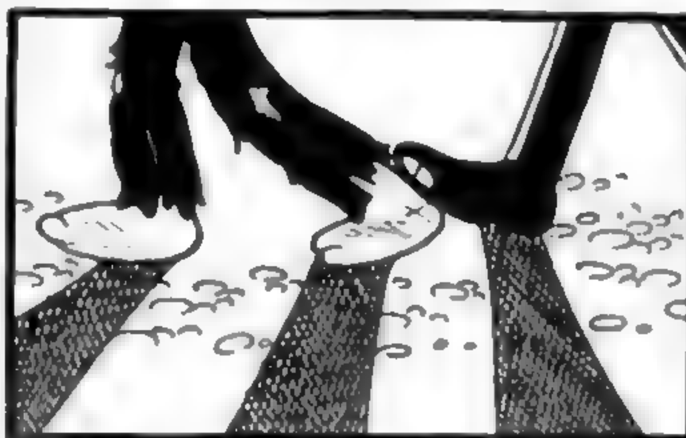

IT MUST SEEM SILLY TAKING SOMETHING LIKE THIS

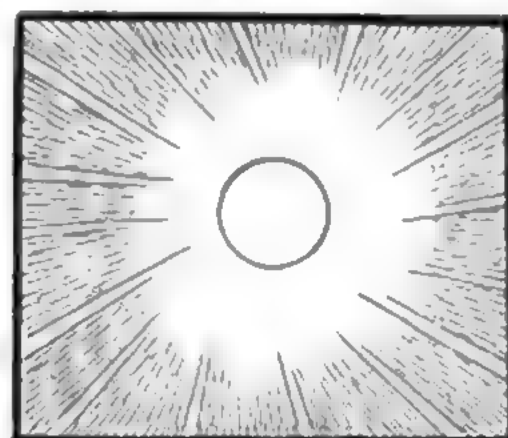

YES! IT HASN'T BEEN LOST!
AHHH HA HA HAHA
HEHEHE HAHA



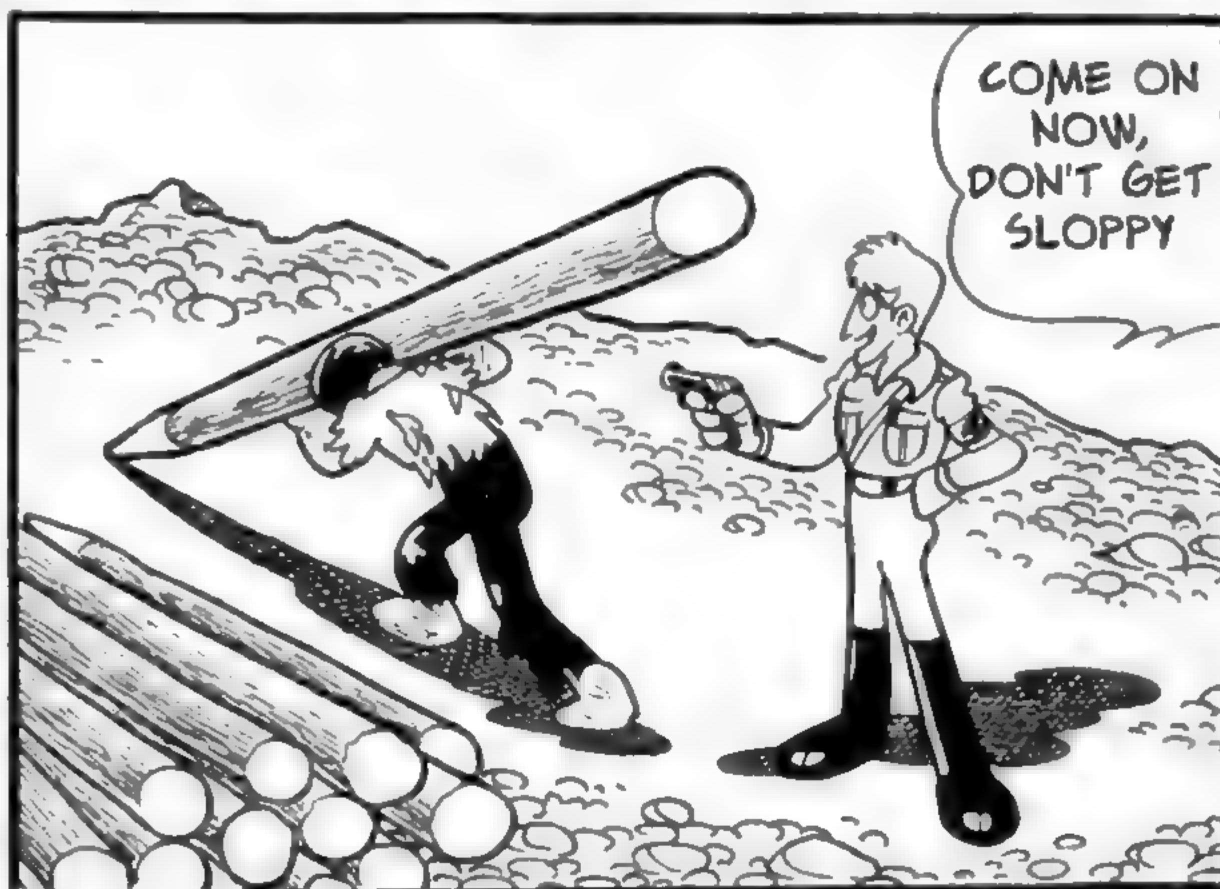

SO I'LL TAKE IT OFF YOUR HANDS HEH HEH HEH

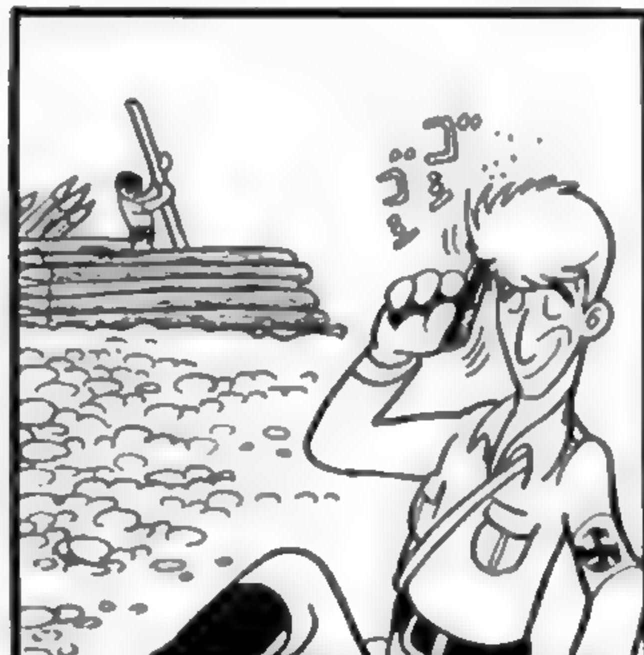

HAVE TO BE CAREFUL... THIS'LL BE MY ONLY CHANCE

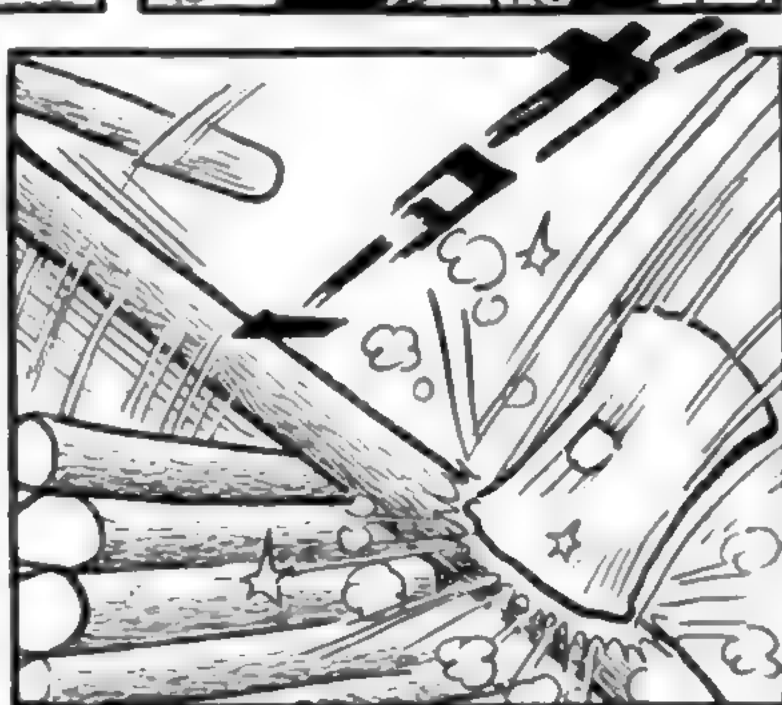






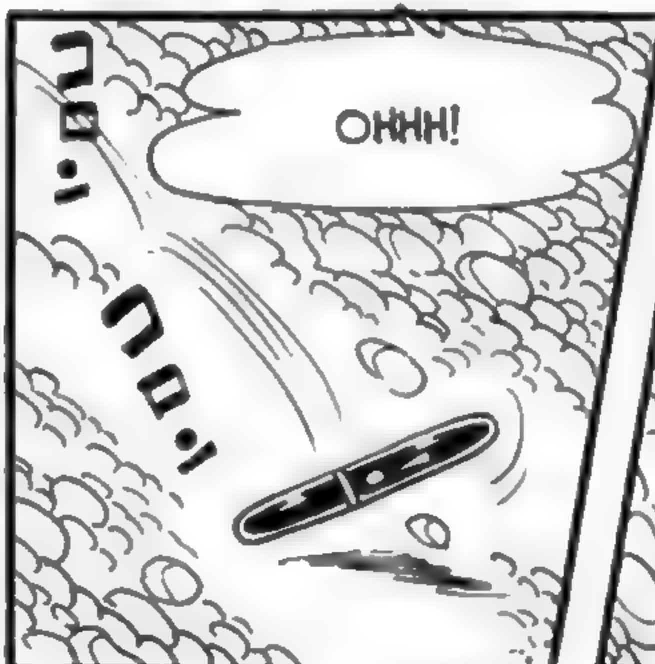

COME ON NOW, DON'T GET SLOPPY



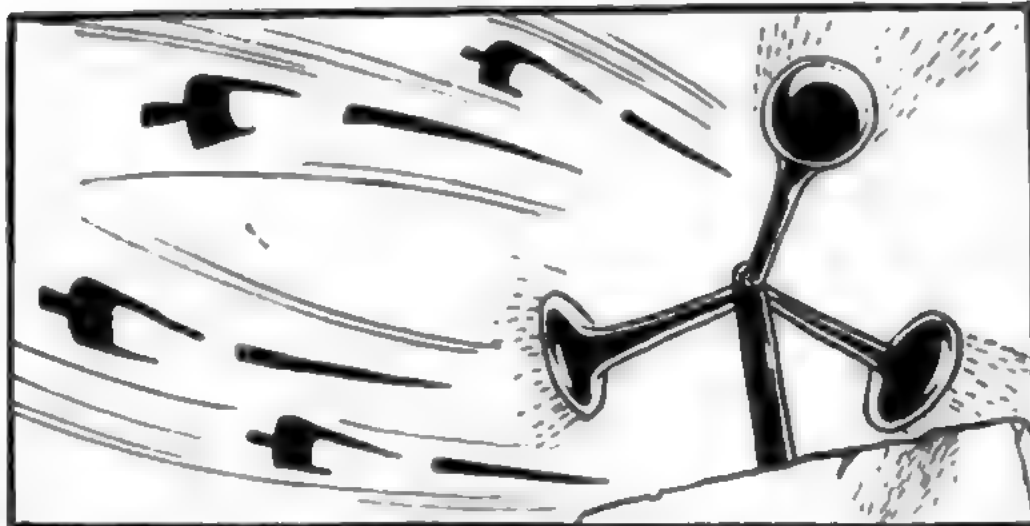

うわーっ




OHHH!

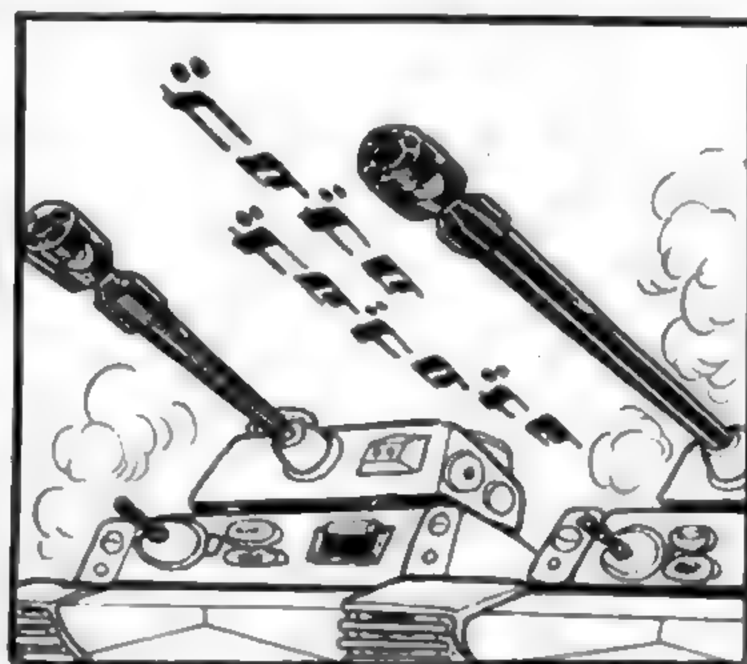
DAMN! MY PEN!





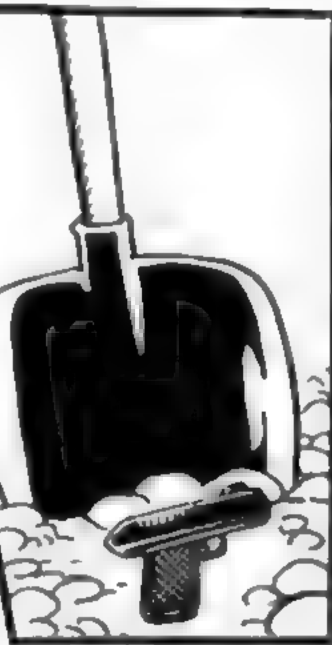
WELL... COME AND GET SOME!

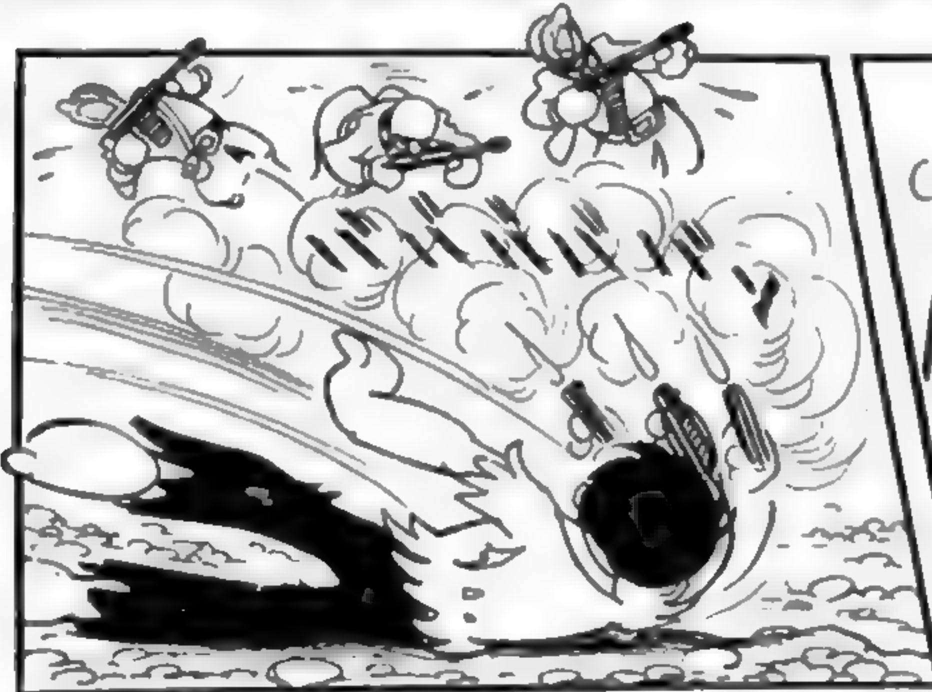
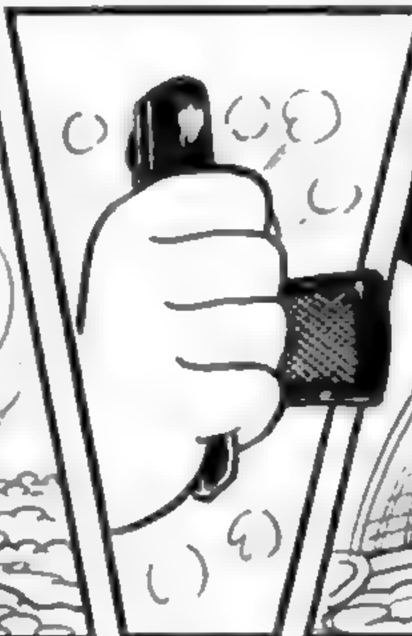







RAISE YOUR HANDS AND COME OVER HERE




PUT DOWN THE SHOVEL!





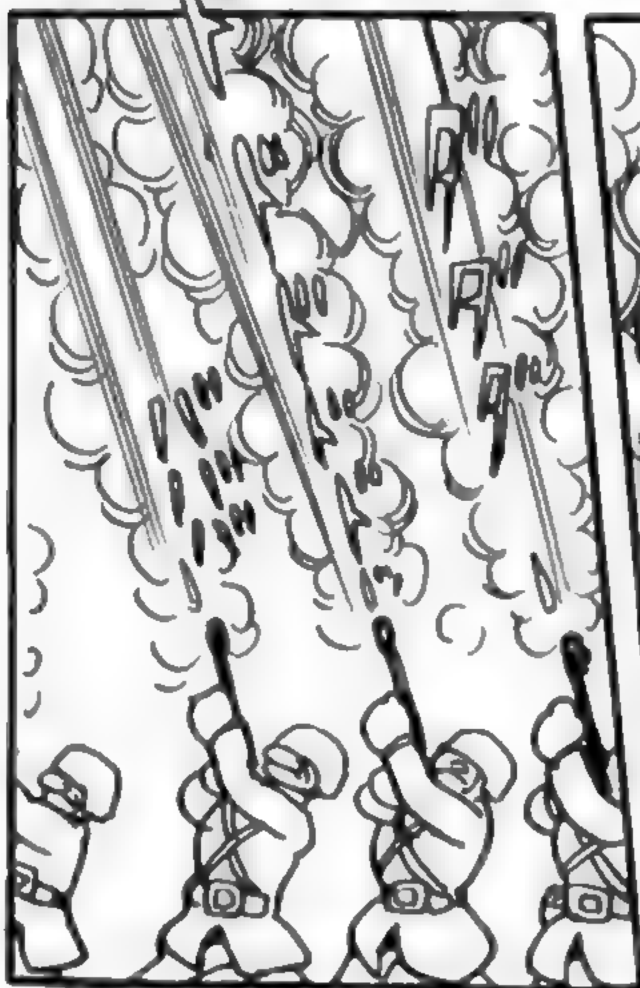


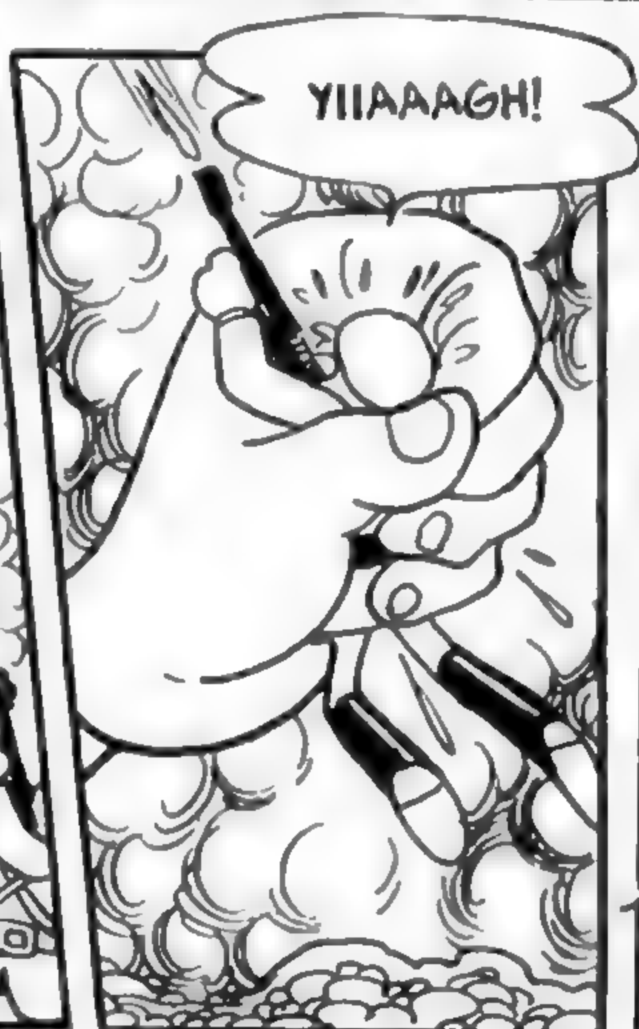




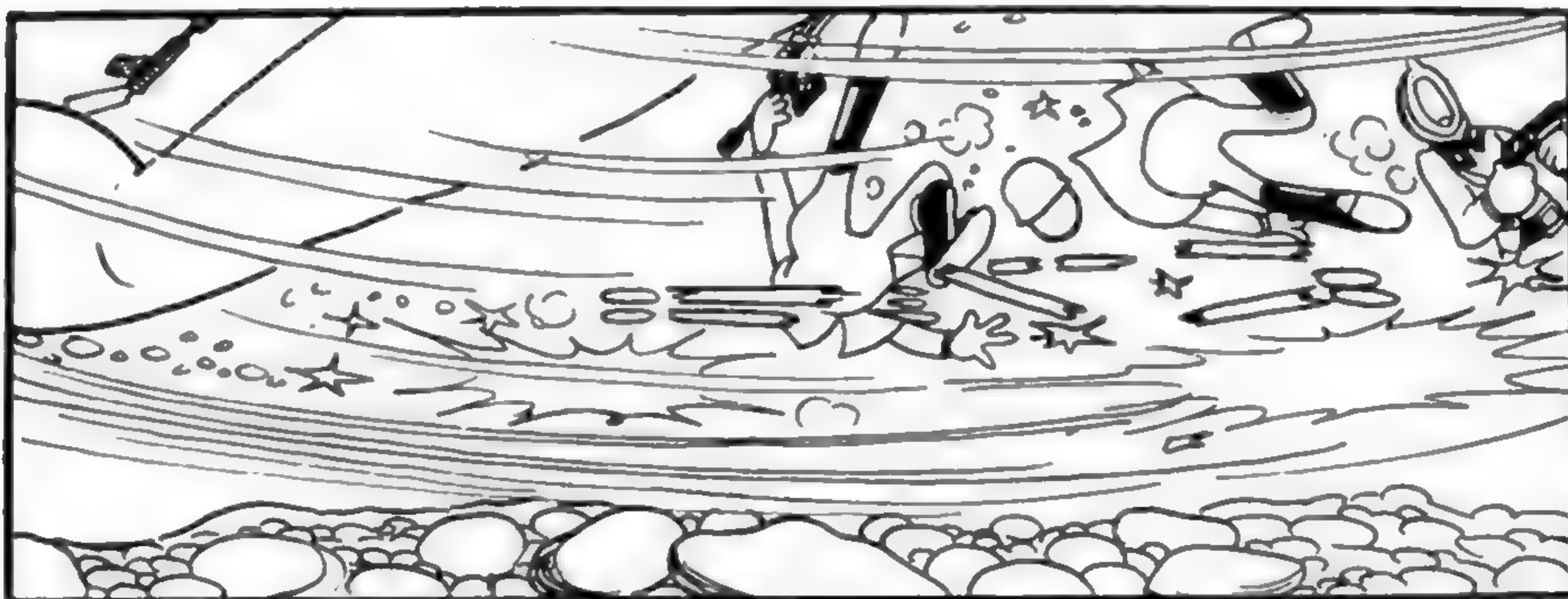


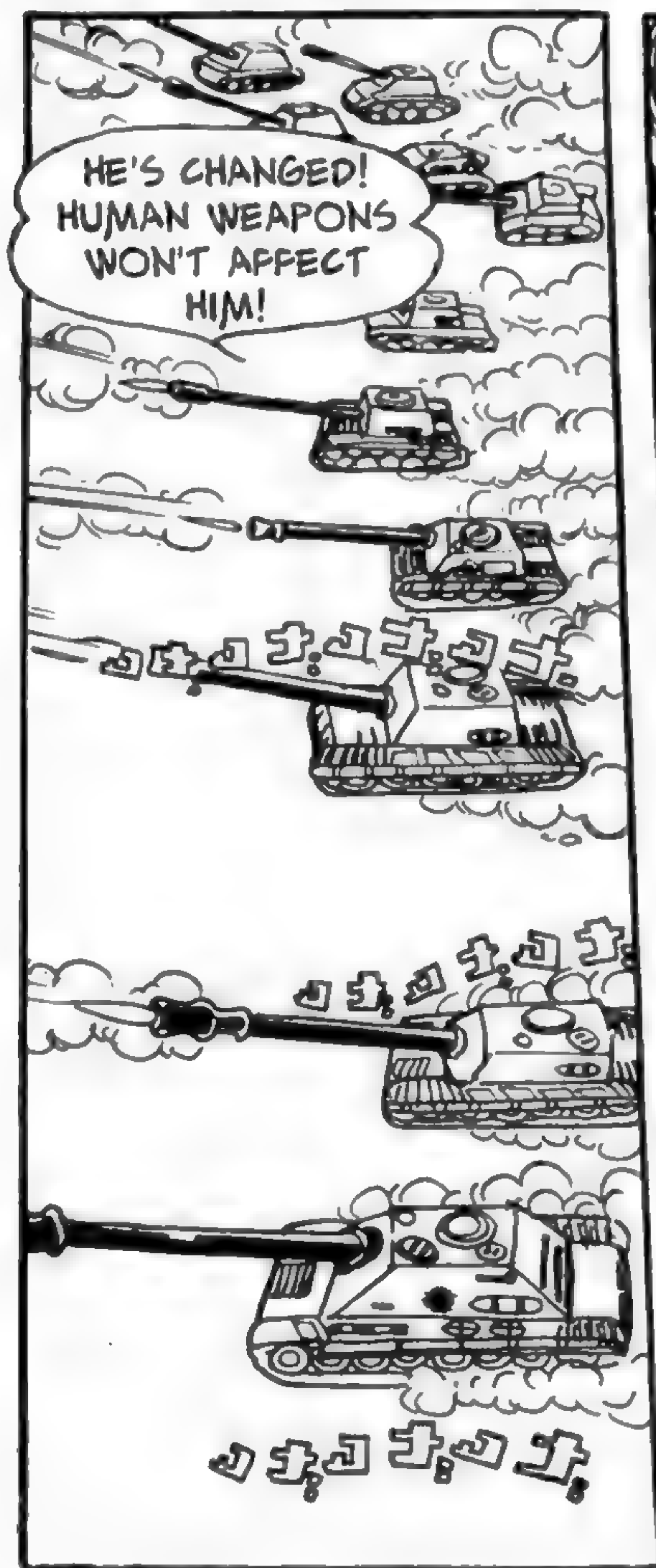

WOW!
IT'S A...A...
H-H-HAND!




YIIAAAGH!


WOAH!
WOAH!




HE'S CHANGED! HUMAN WEAPONS WON'T AFFECT HIM!

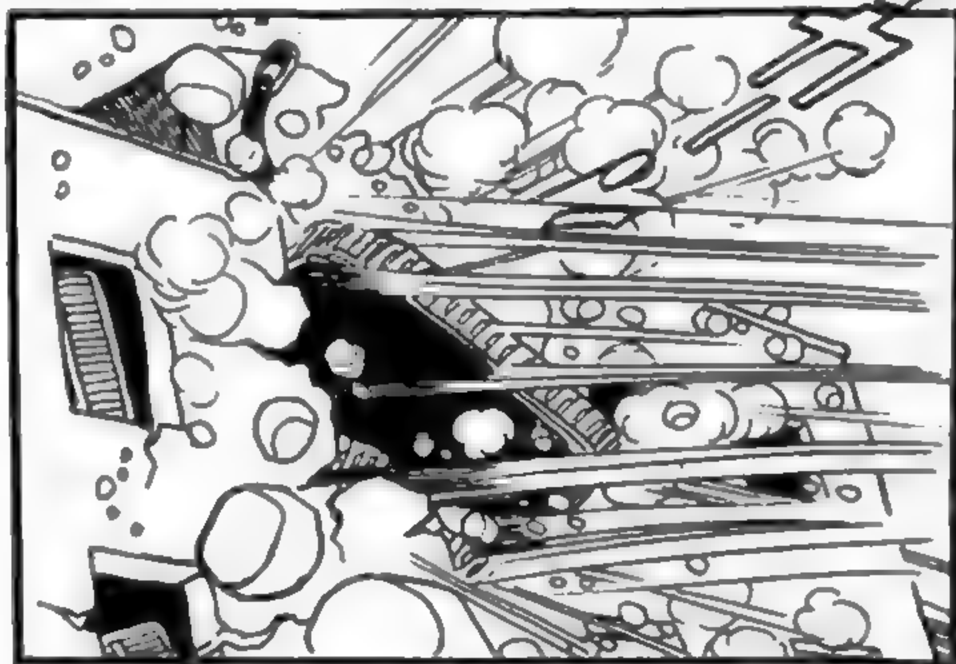


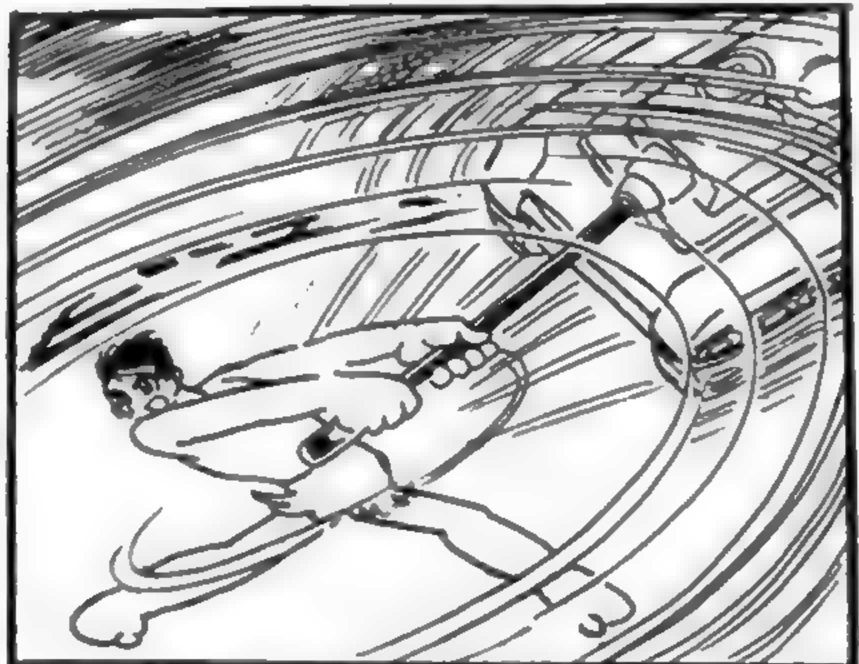


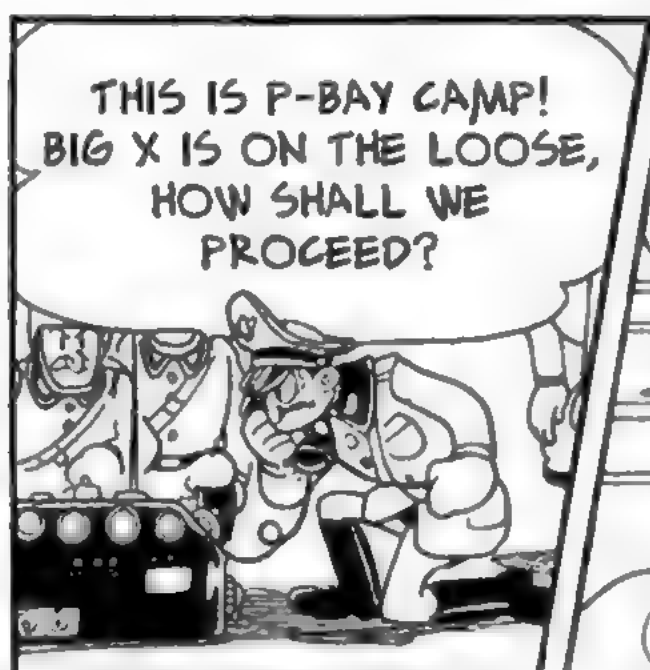




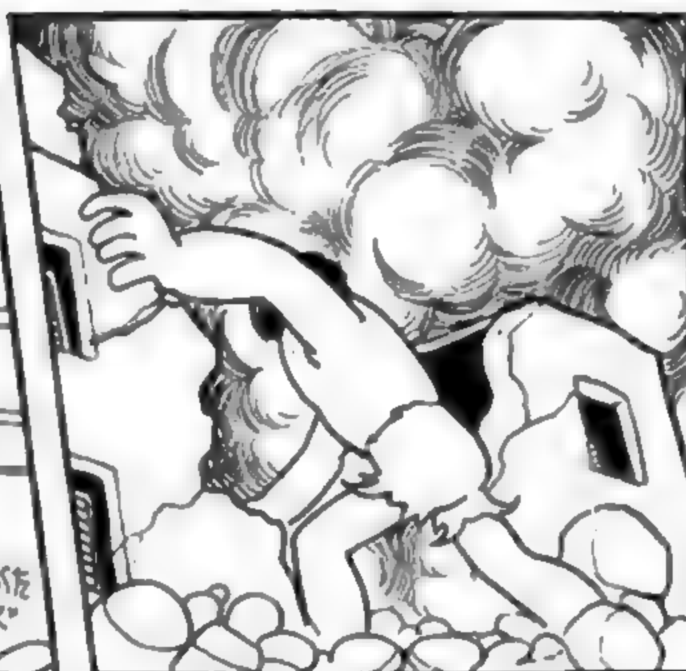

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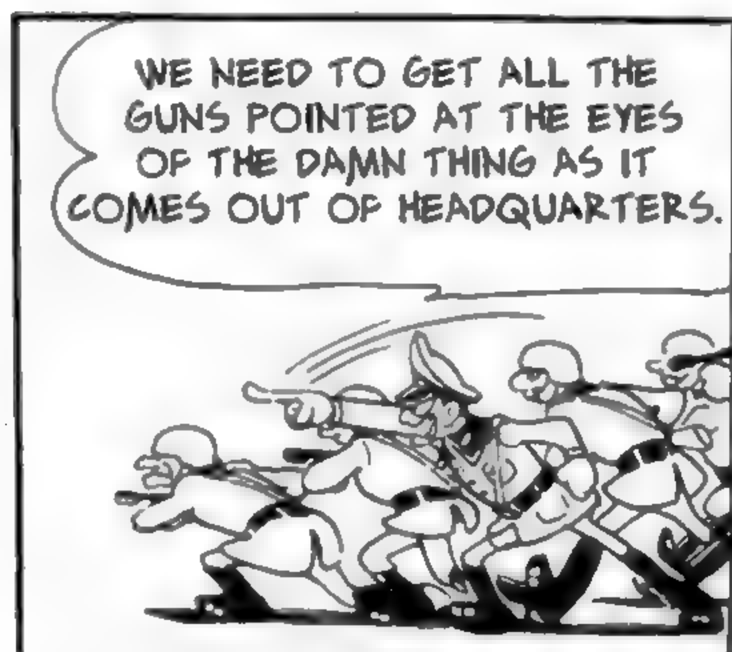






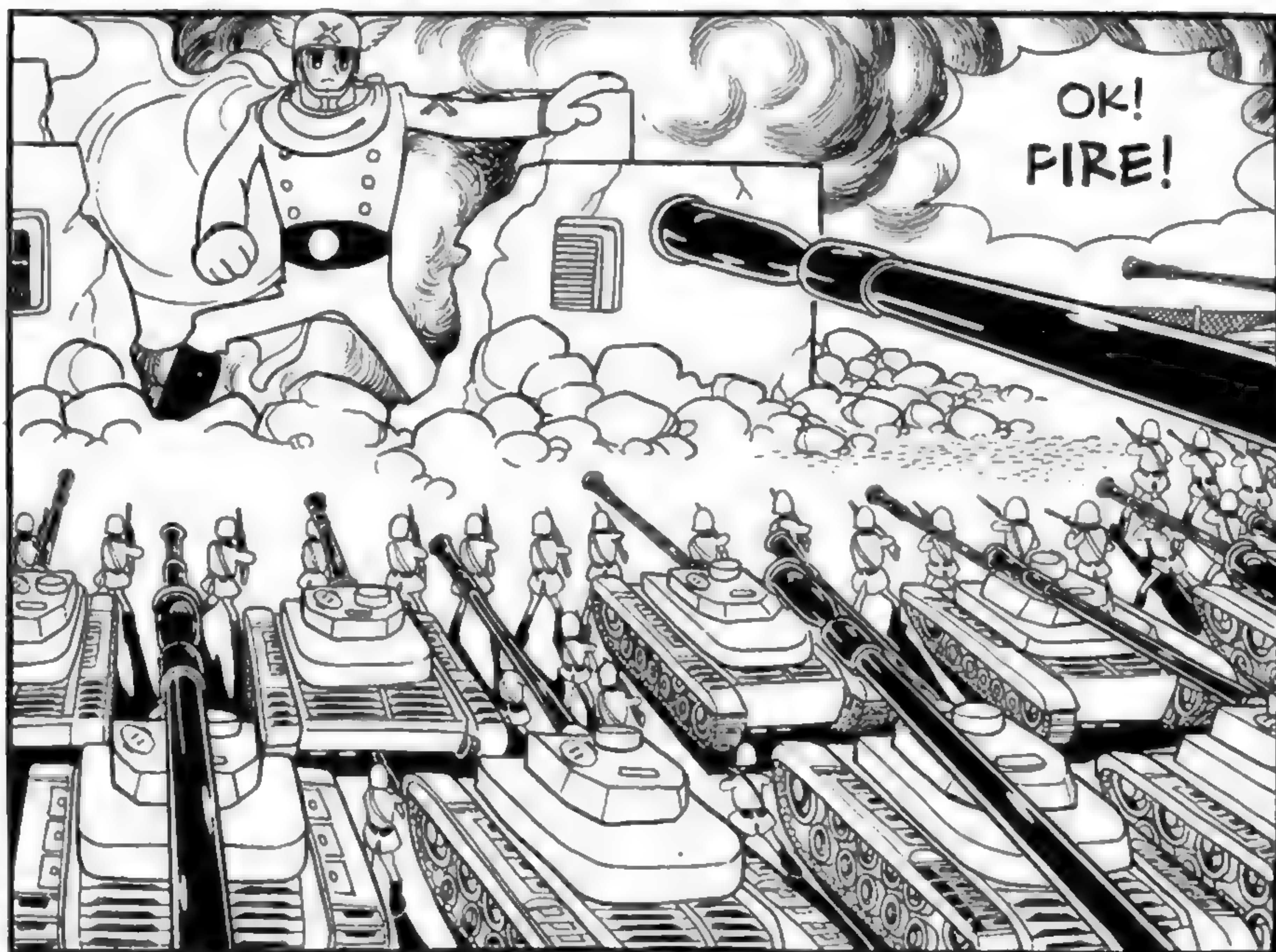


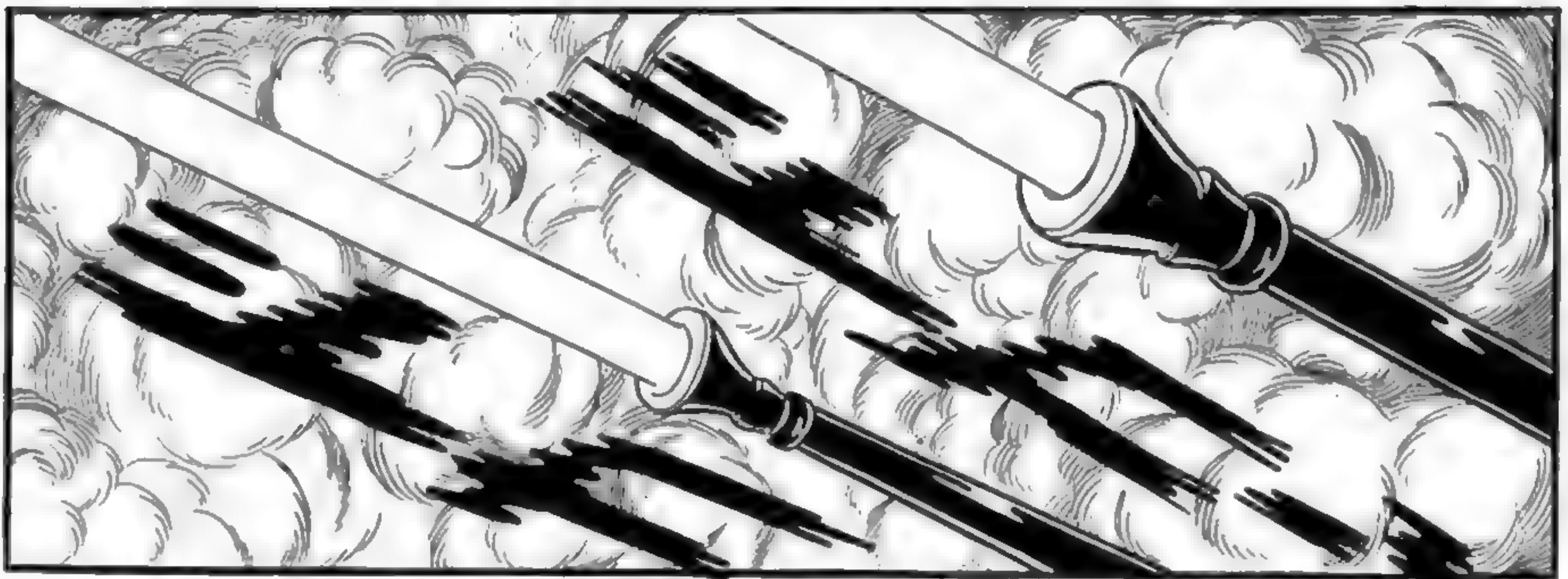
NONESENSE POSE

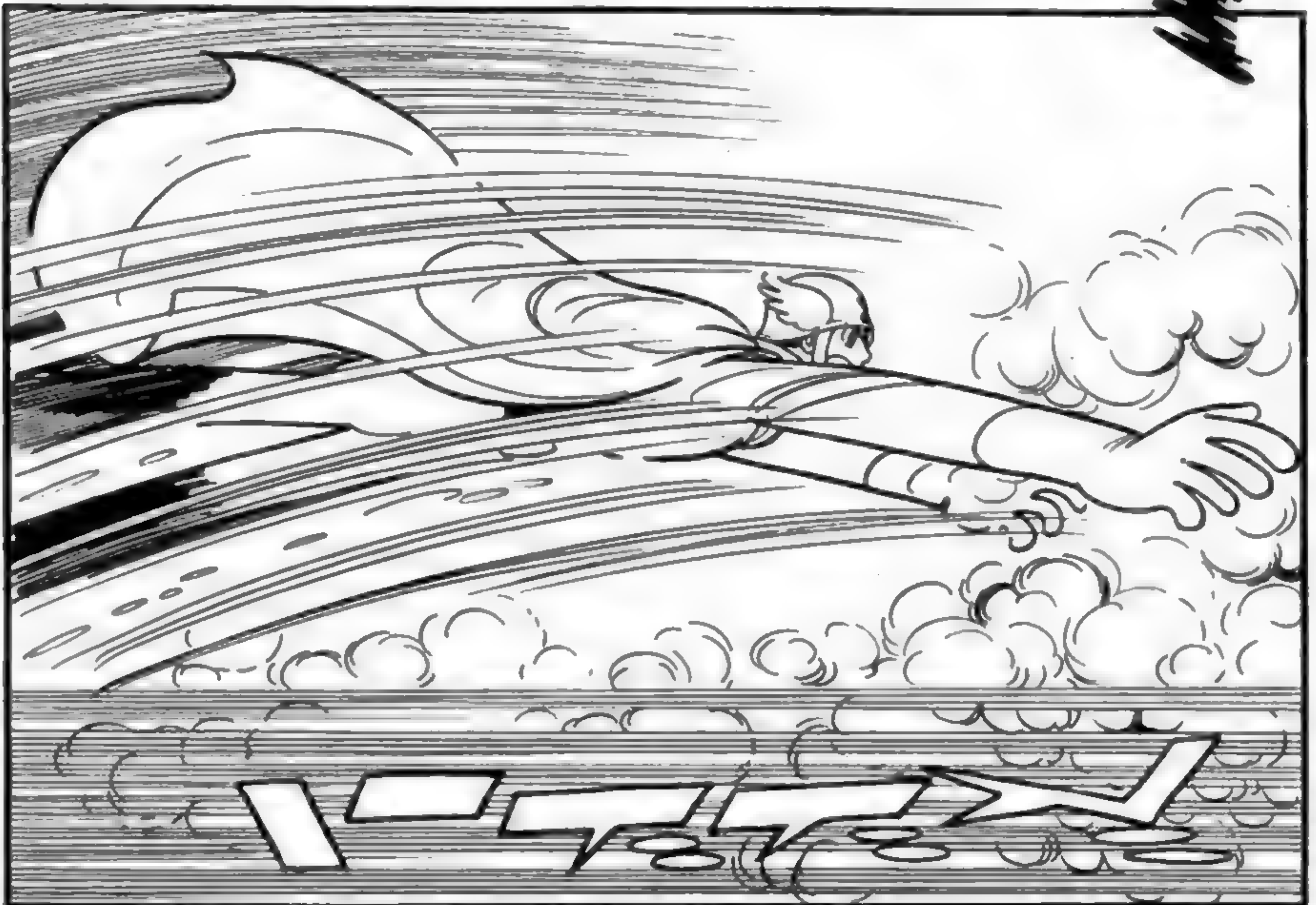


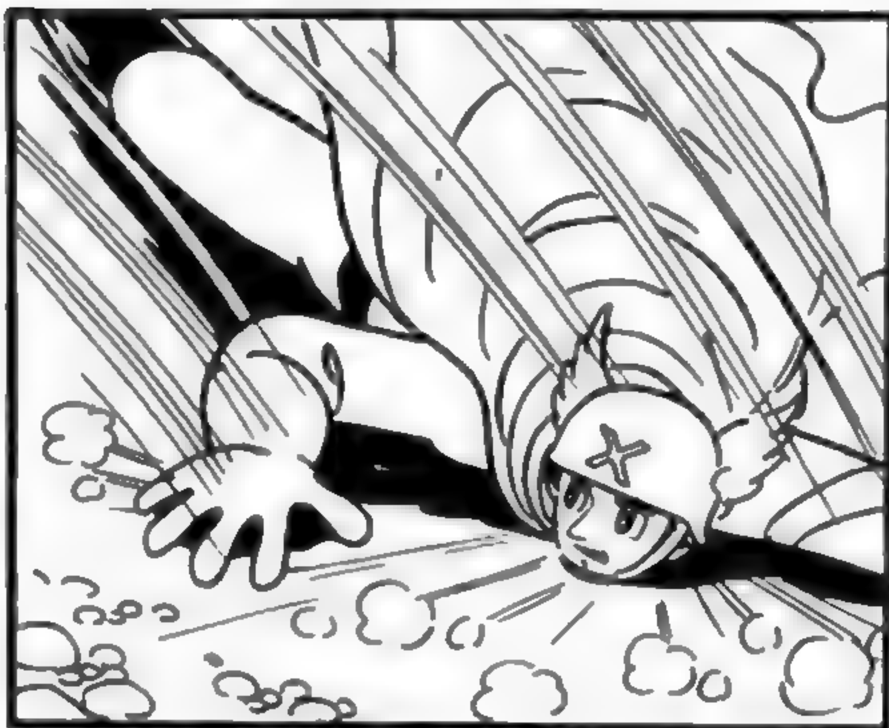




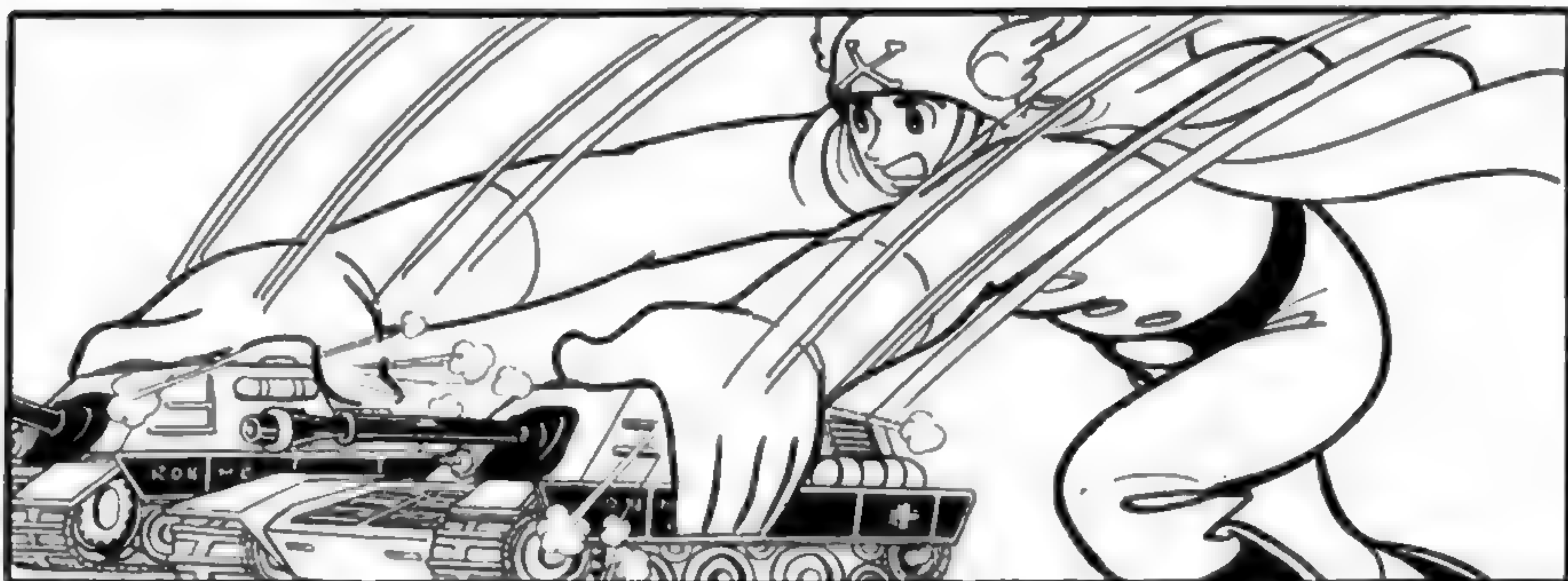




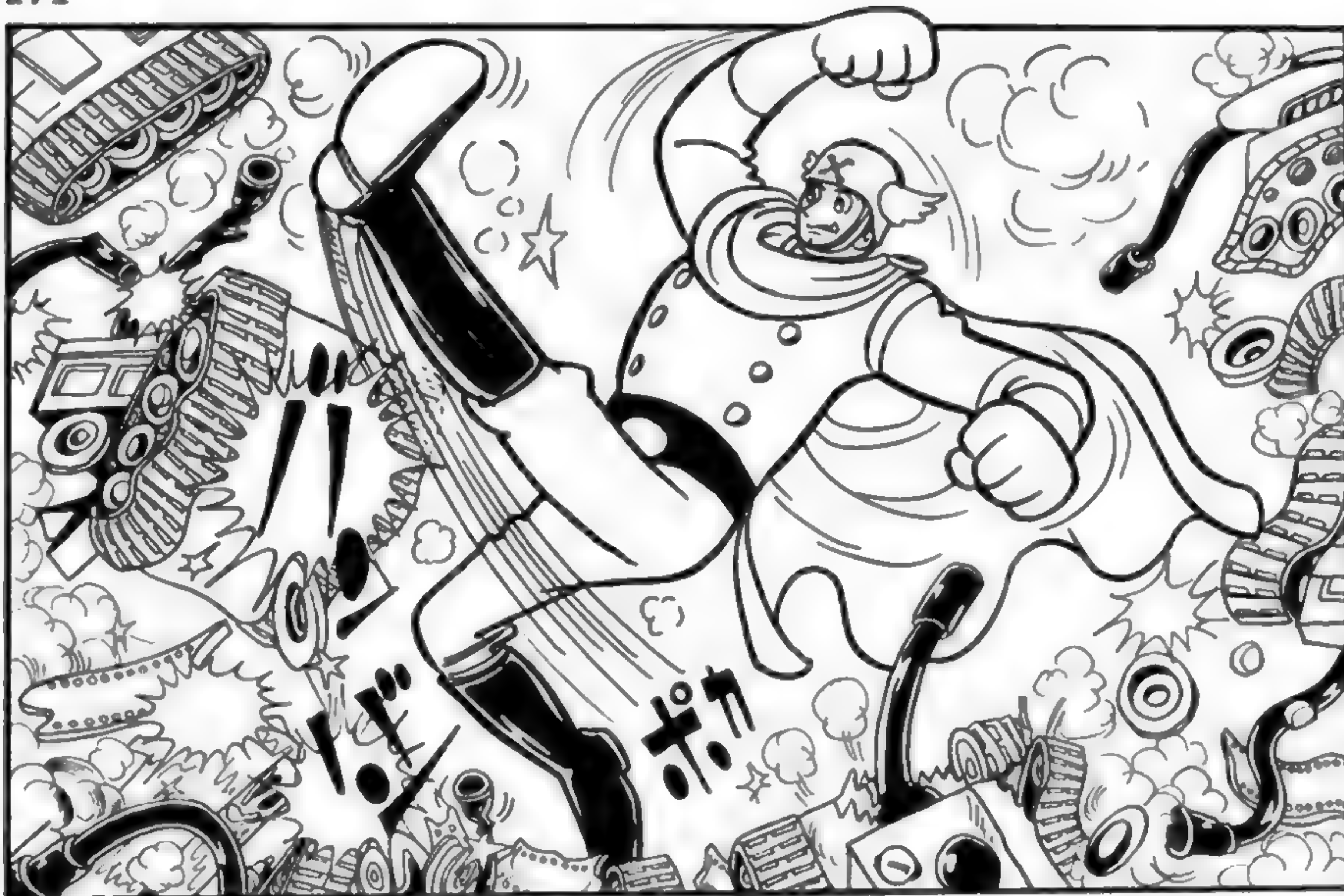






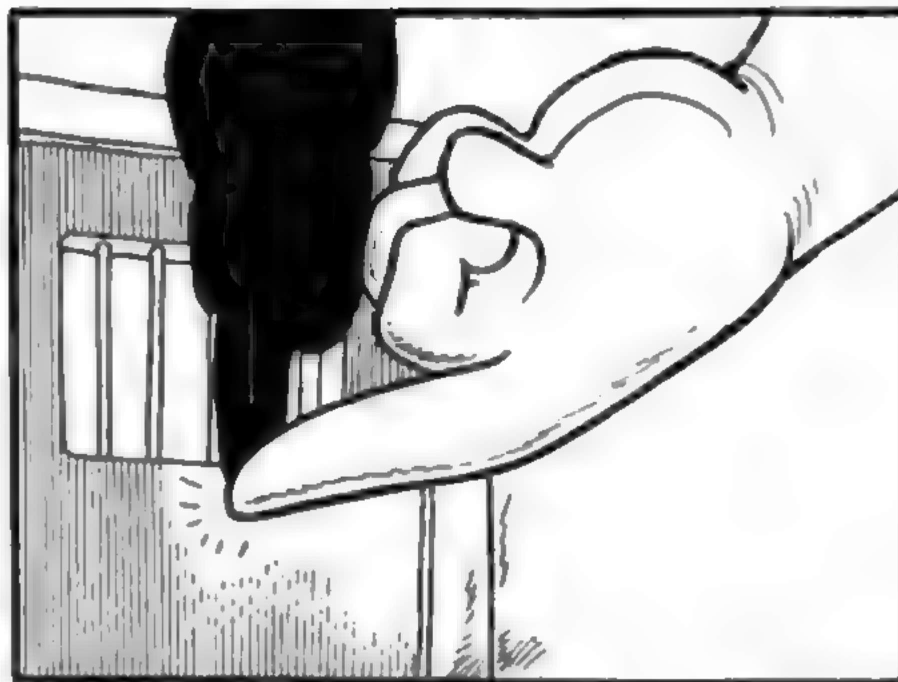


TAKE THAT!



AND TAKE THAT! HOW ABOUT THIS!


WHO?




EEEEK!

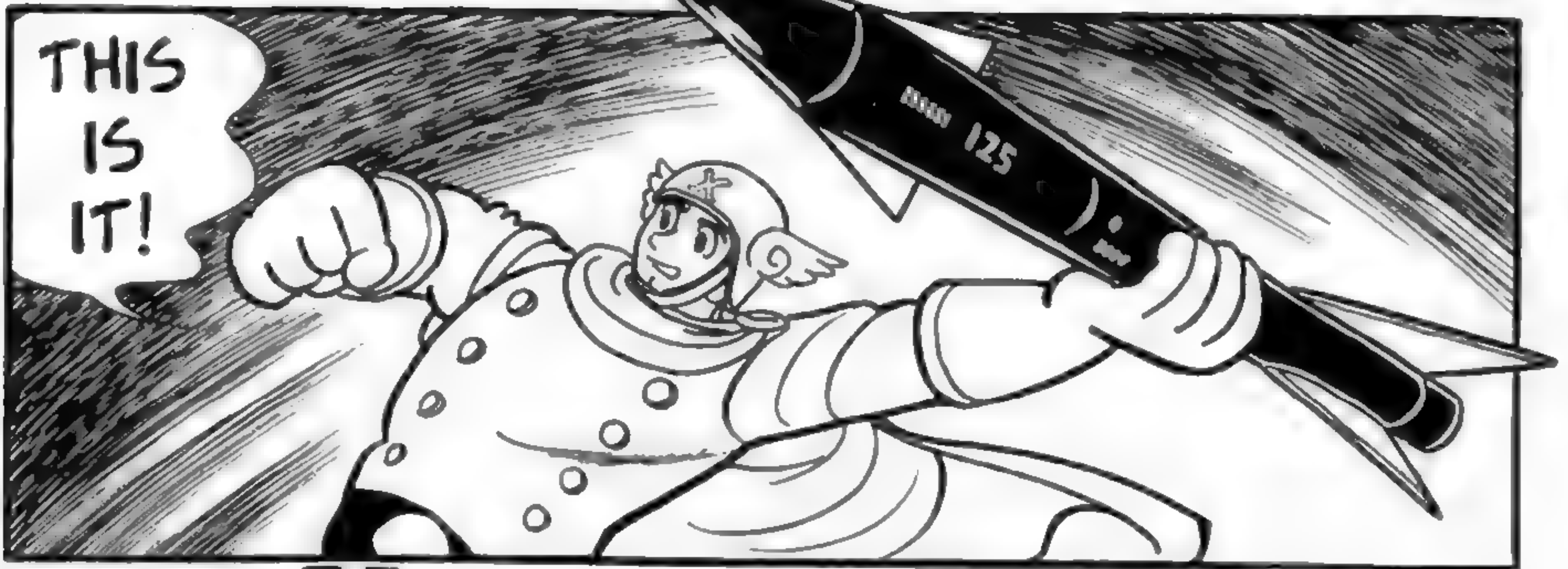


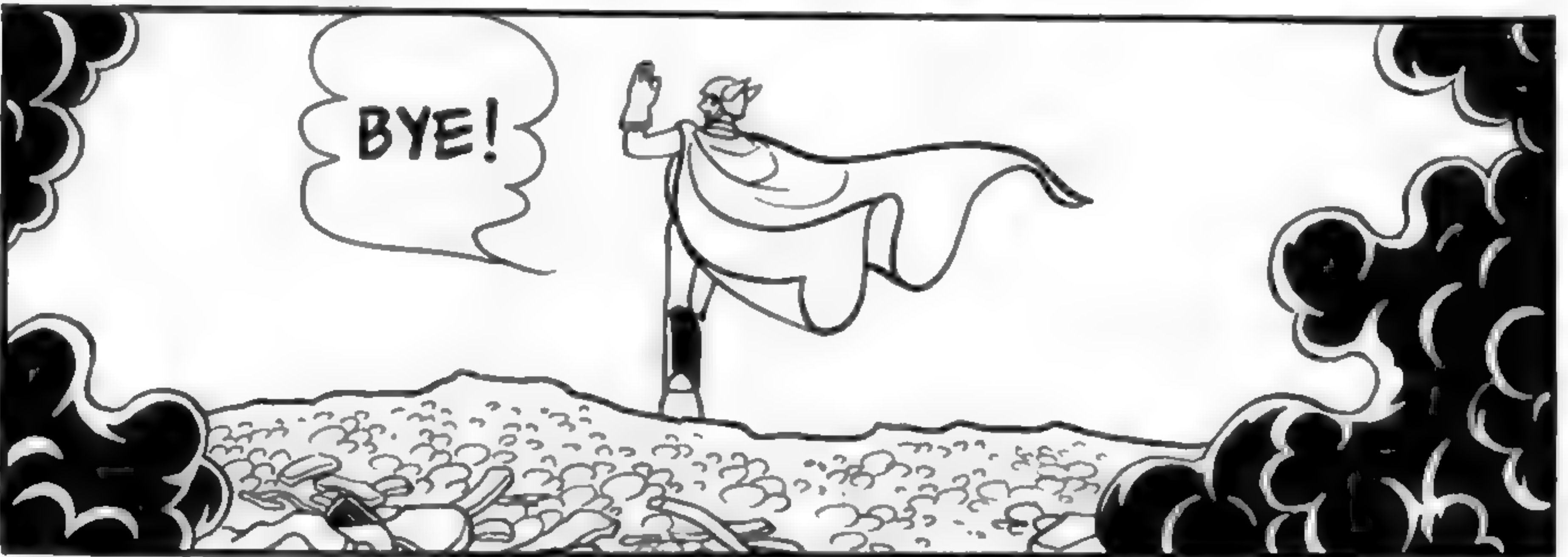

A MONSTER!


POOR KID, SHE PASSED OUT...



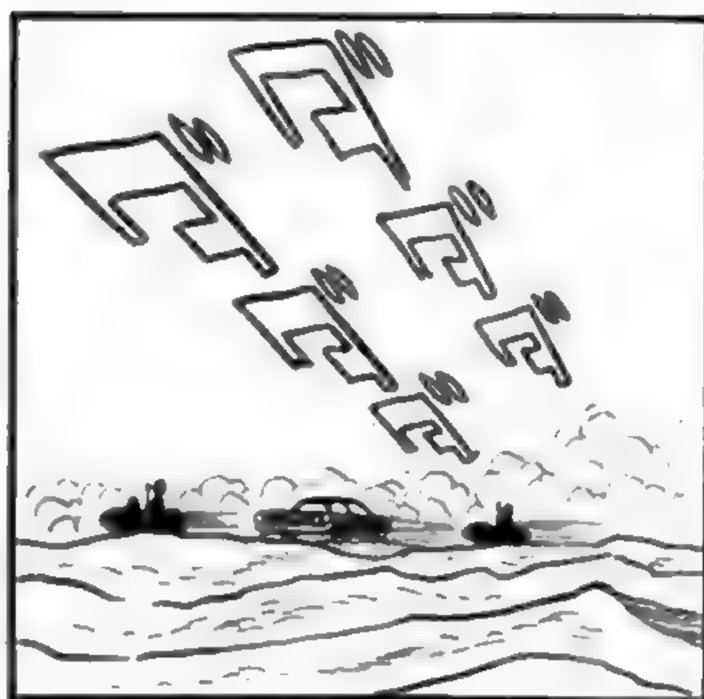
I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE NEVER TORTURED LIKE THAT AGAIN.

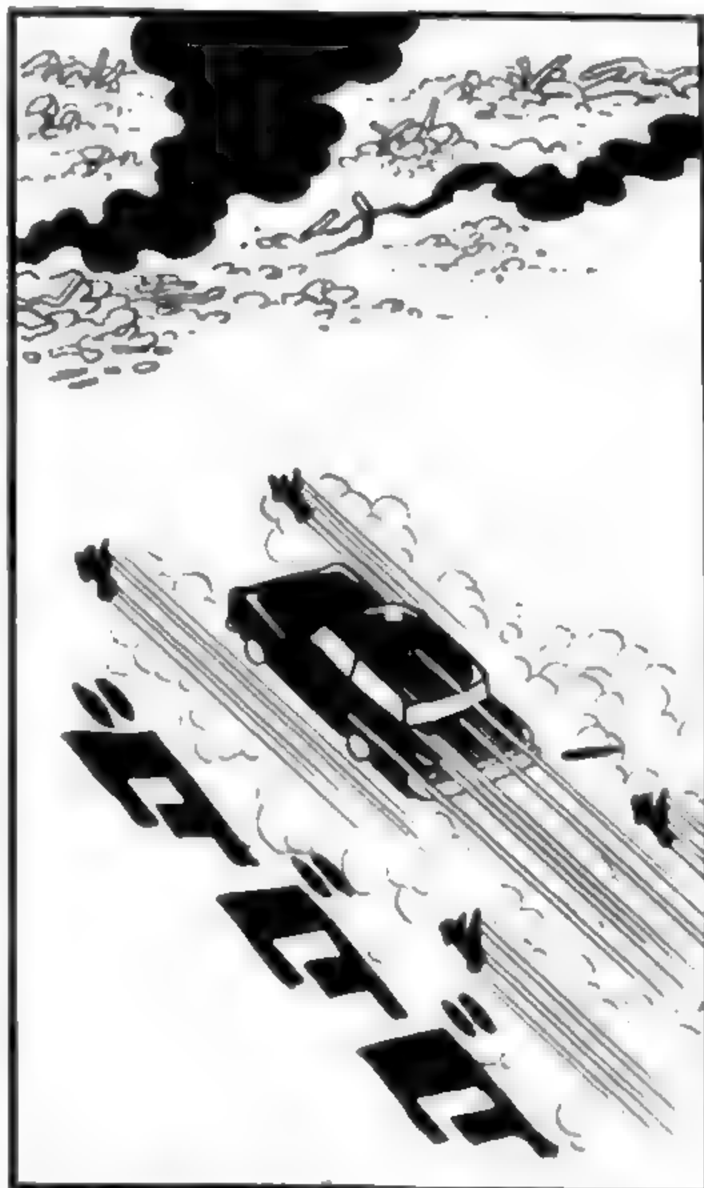

THIS IS IT!
125


BYE!

CHAPTER 5
THE HUNTERS
AND
THE HUNTED


WHAT HAPPENED TO BIG X ?






BIG X... YOU SON OF A ....
HOW'D YOU PULL IT OFF?




NO MATTER WHAT, YOU'LL NEVER ESCAPE FROM HERE


I'M RUNNING OUT OF STEAM

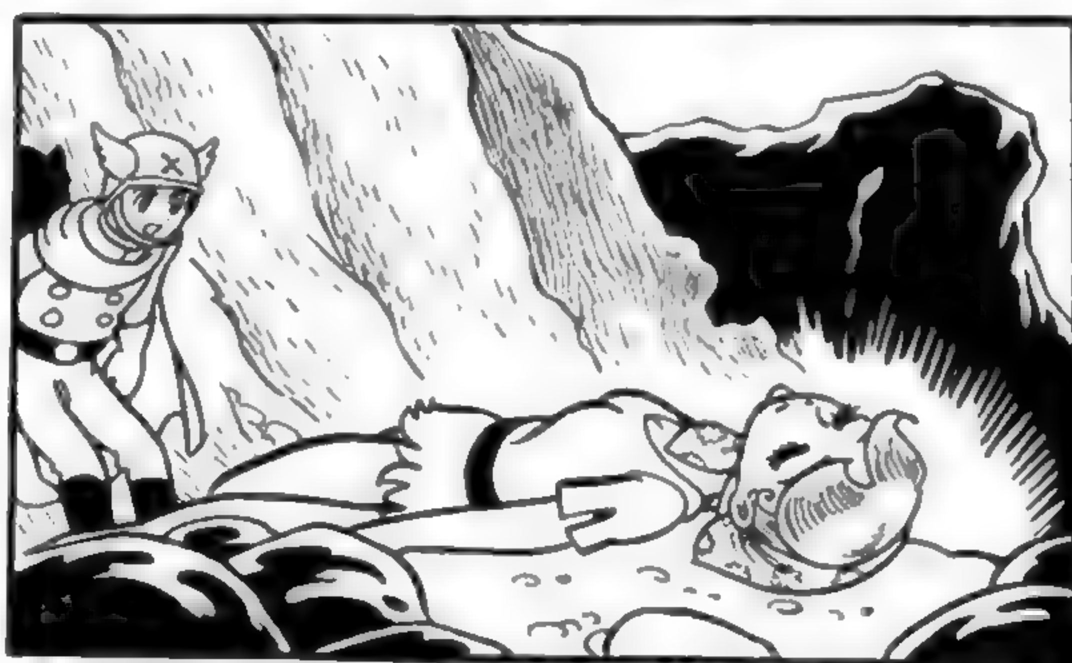

WHEW






UHG... IT'S WEARING OFF

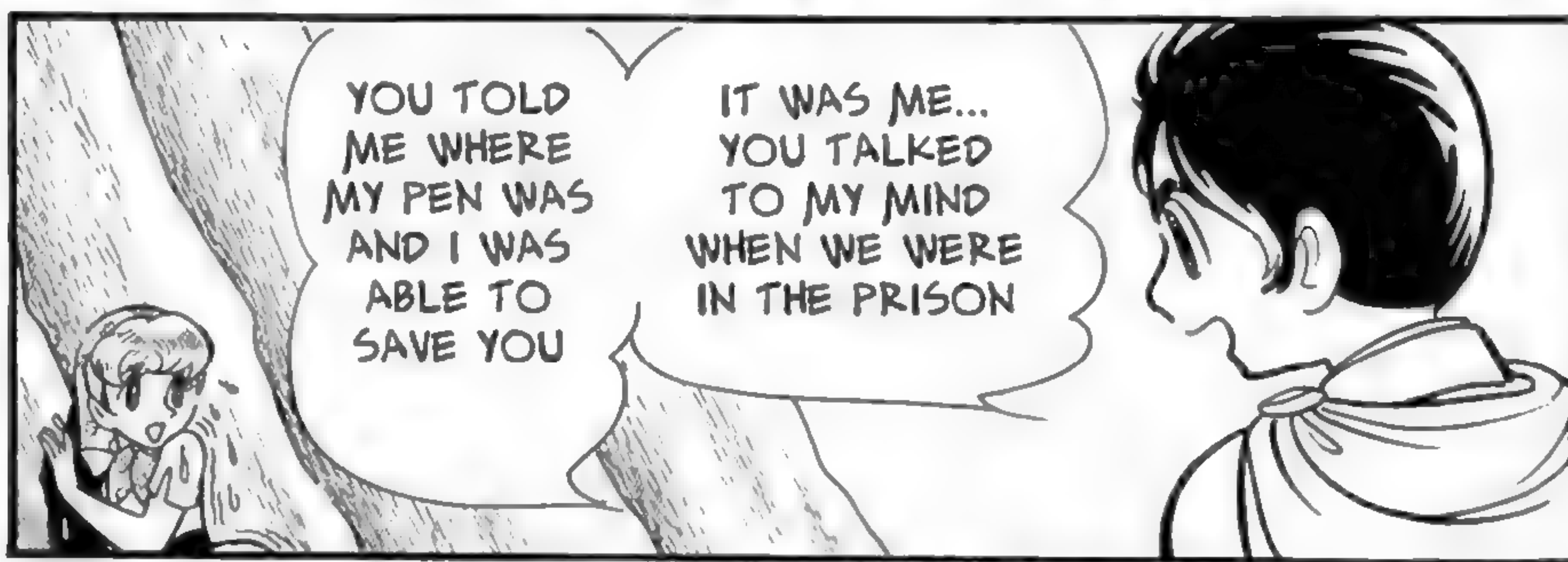
AARGH.. HURTS...



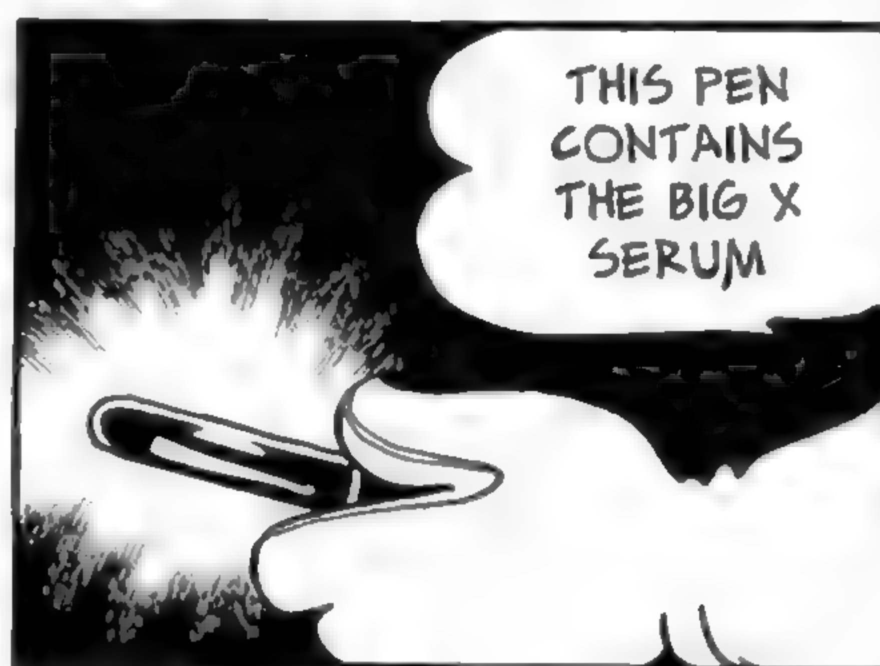
C'MON, YOU'VE GOT TO LIVE




AH!
DON'T BE SCARED ....
THAT WAS BIG X... THE SERUM FROM THE PEN.


IT WAS ME... YOU TALKED TO MY MIND WHEN WE WERE IN THE PRISON
YOU TOLD ME WHERE MY PEN WAS AND I WAS ABLE TO SAVE YOU


SEE? THE NEEDLE POPS OUT AND BECOMES A SYRINGE.


THIS PEN CONTAINS THE BIG X SERUM


DO YOU TRUST ME NOW?
I'M SORRY ...
I GUESS I'M JUST PARANOID


......


MY NAME IS AKIRA ASAGUMO
I'M NINA... NINA BURTON
I'M FROM CARTHAGE


NINA, YOU REALLY SCARED ME IN THE CELL. HOW IS IT POSSIBLE?
YOU SPOKE TO ME INSIDE MY HEAD FROM 10 METERS AWAY. HOW DID YOU DO THAT?


IT'S TELE-KINESIS


!


I WAS SCARED, BEING LOCKED UP IN THAT CELL


I WAS IN THAT PRISON FOR 10 YEARS
MY PARENTS WERE WITH ME. THEY DIED IN THERE.
10 YEARS ?
YOU MUST'VE BEEN THREE OR FOUR YEARS OLD?

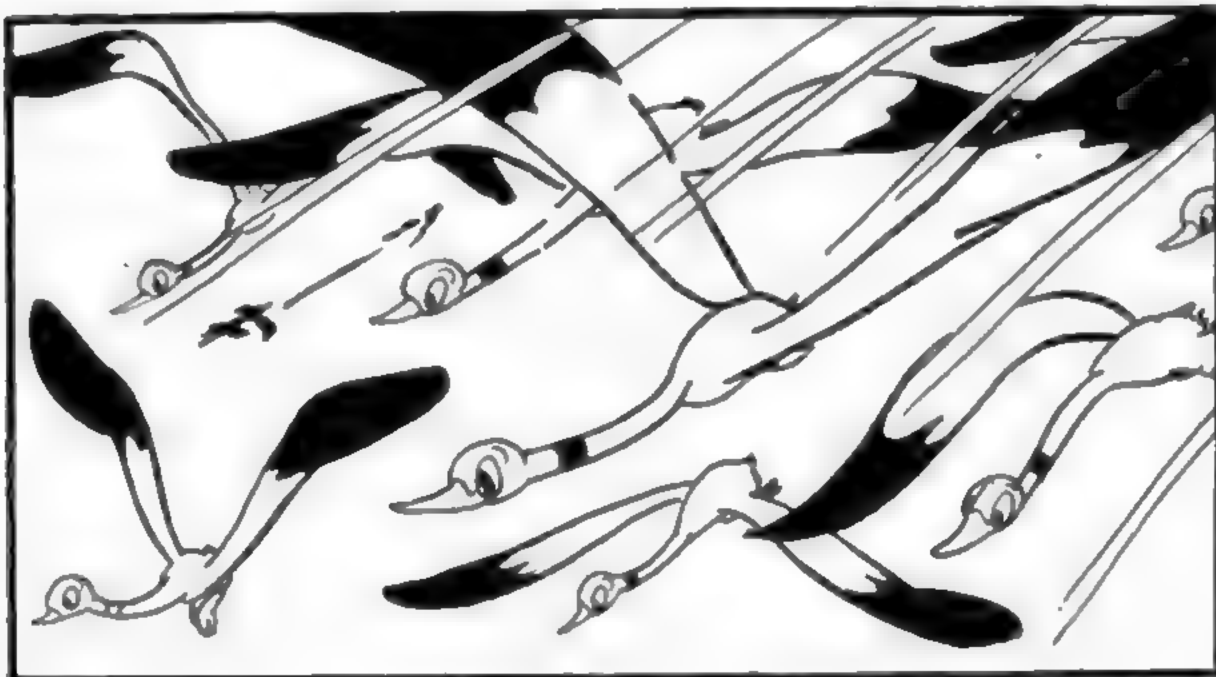

YEAH.. I'VE BEEN ALONE SINCE THEN.
I WAS SO LONELY, I WANTED TO TALK TO SOMEONE. SO I STARTED TALKING TO A CROW.


HUH? A CROW?
YES, THEY DON'T SPEAK OUR LANGUAGE


SO I TRIED TO TALK WITH MY MIND.
I THOUGHT IF I COULD TALK TO THE SOUL OF THE CROW, IT WOULD UNDERSTAND

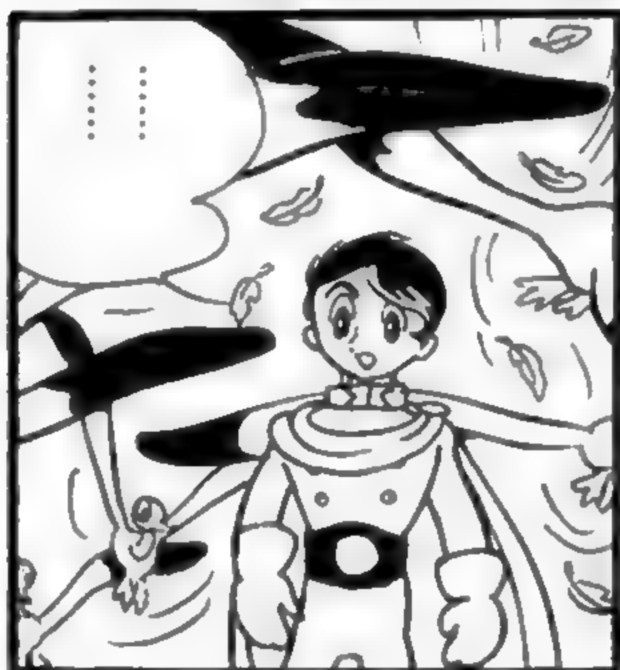

ONE MORNING I GOT THROUGH TO ONE. IT LANDED ON MY WINDOW. I WAS SO HAPPY.


LET'S CALL TO SOME BIRDS NOW!




NYA
NYA
NYA


NYA
NYA
NYA
NYA


......

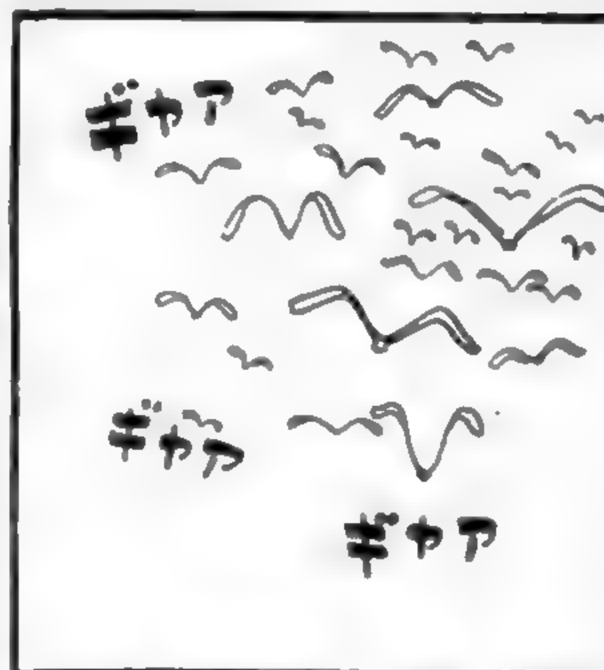

YOU ARE TALKING TELEPATHICALLY NOW? WOW YOU CAN REALLY DO IT?

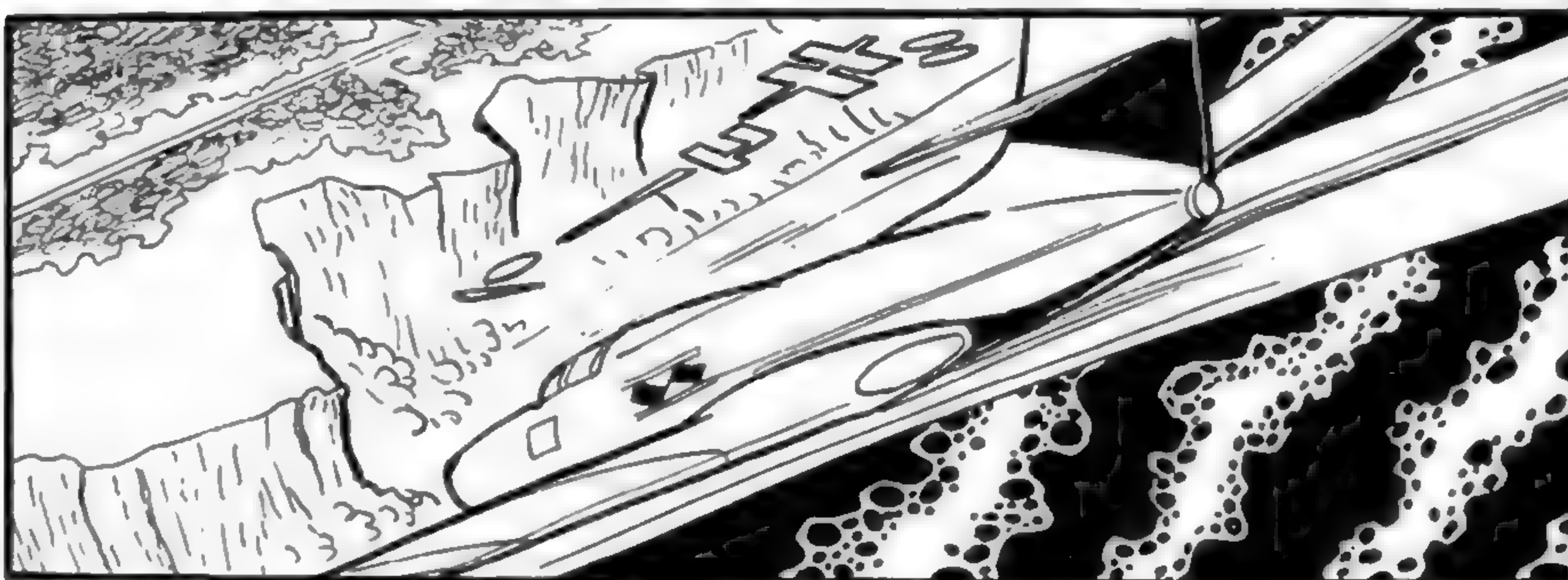

I ASKED IF THEY SAW ANY HUMANS AND HE ANSWERED THERE IS NO ONE, ONLY US TWO.


NYA!
NYA!

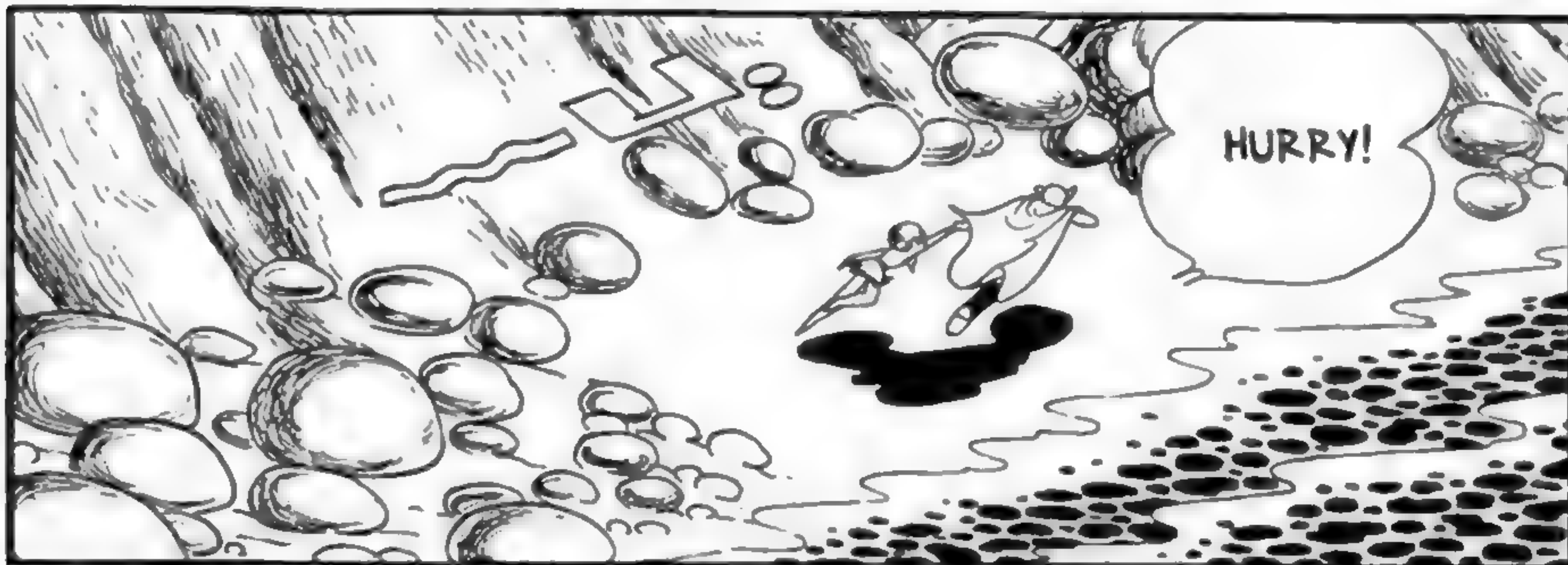


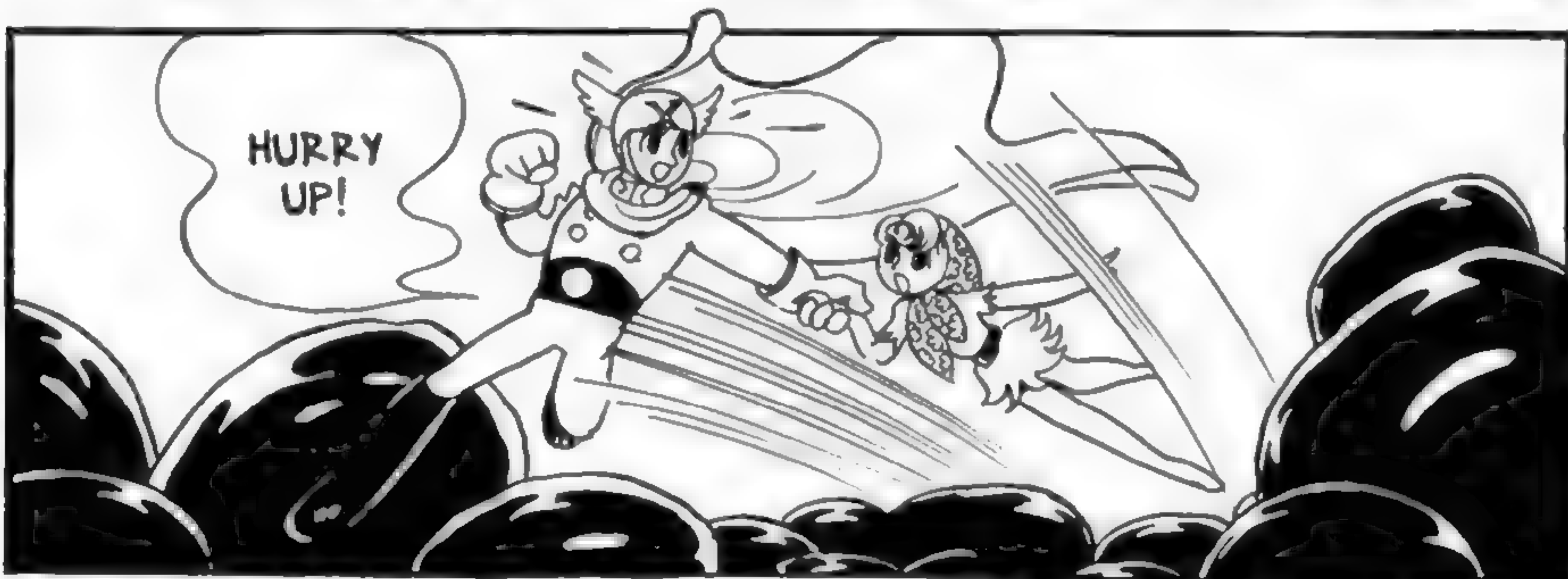

WHAT THE...

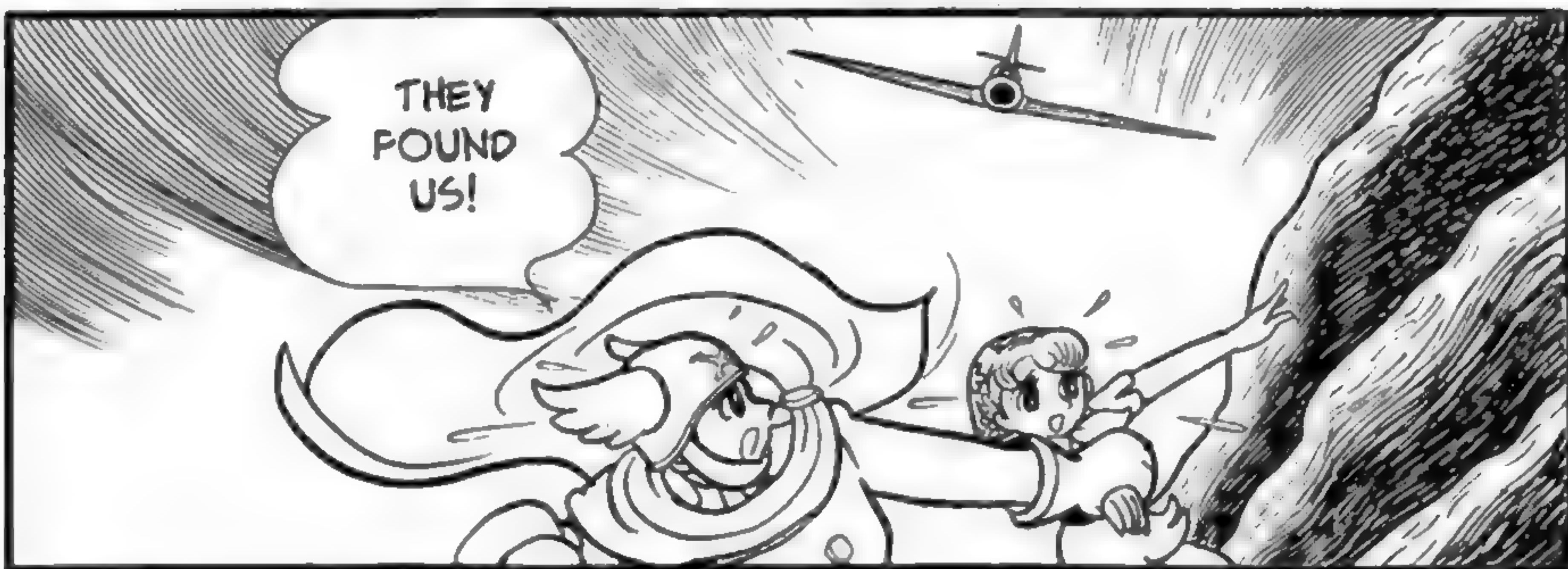

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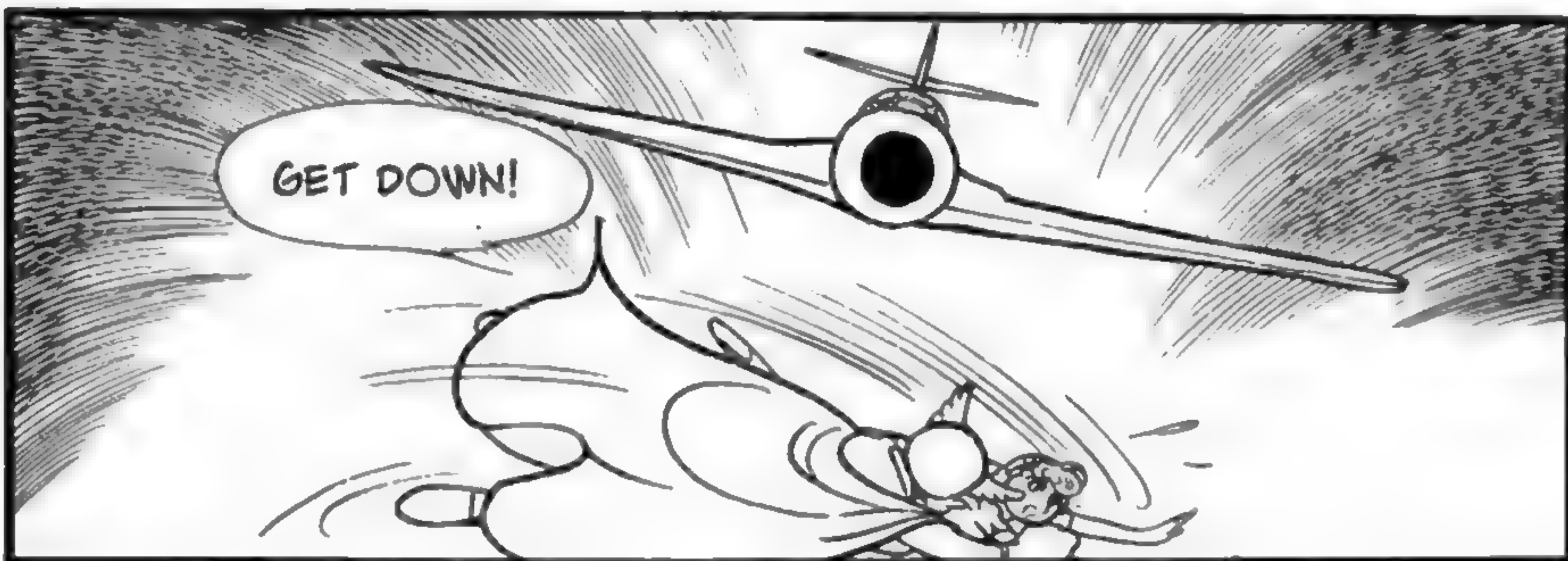



NINA, GO HIDE BEHIND THE BOULDERS
IT'S A PATROL PLANE!

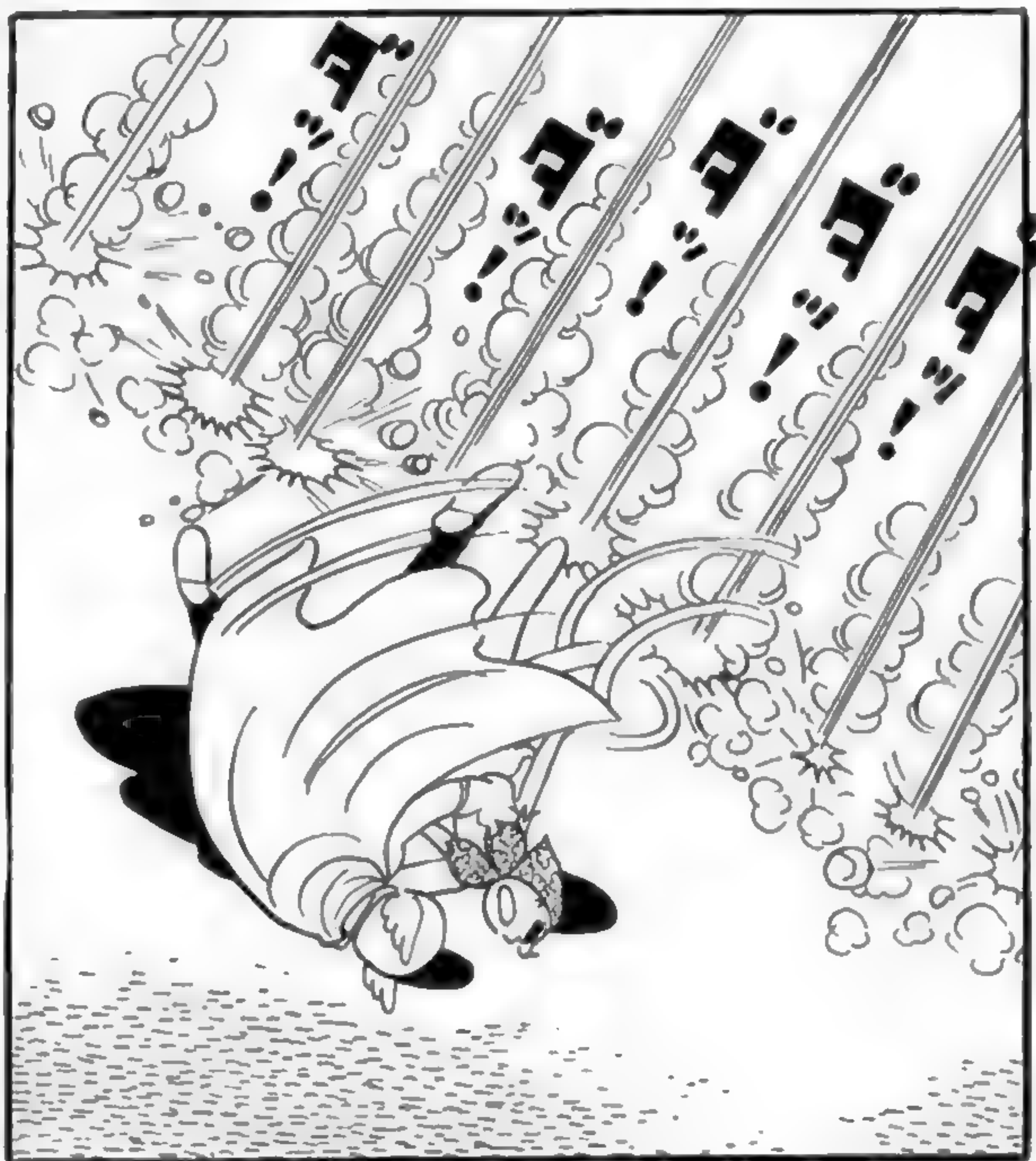

HURRY!

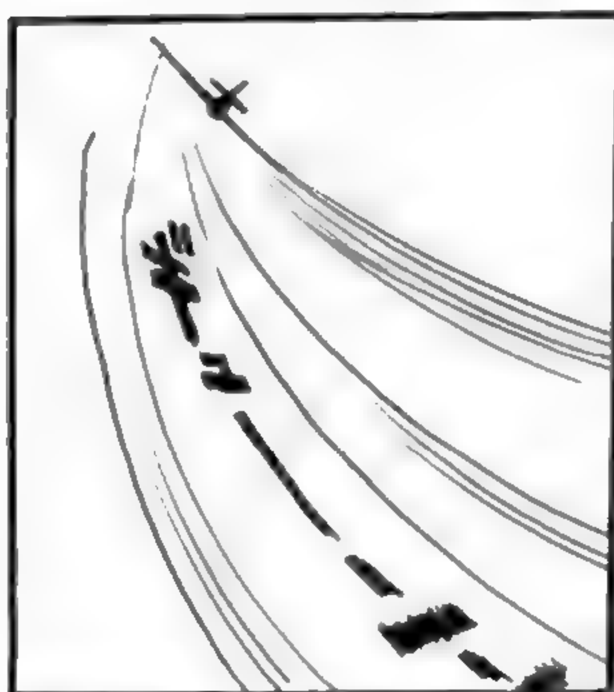

HURRY UP!

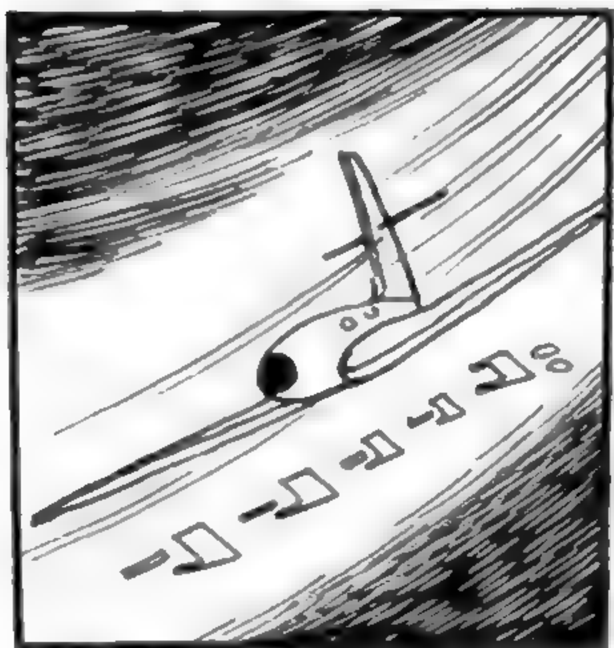

THEY FOUND US!

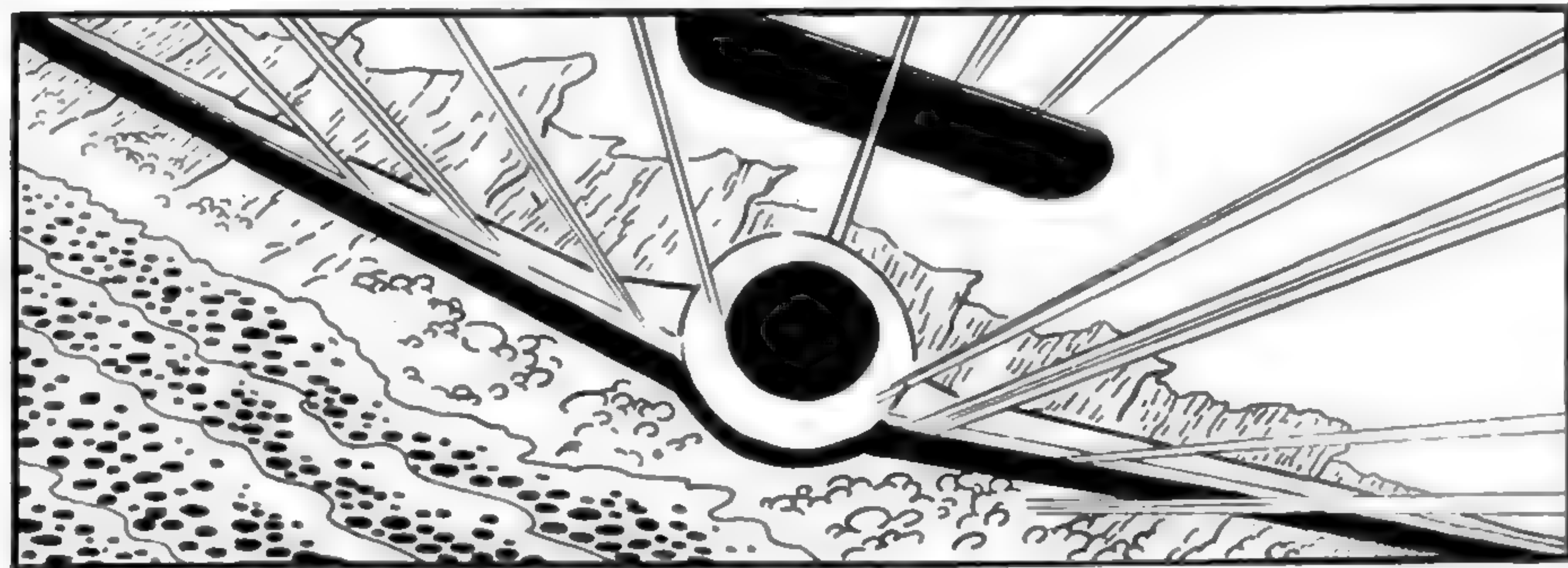

GET DOWN!


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ダッ!
ダッ!
ダッ!
ダッ!
ダッ!







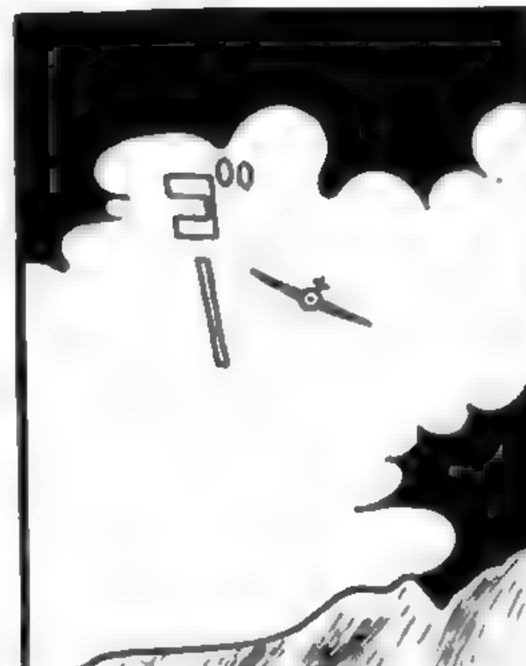

IN HERE!


WE CAN'T SEE EM FROM THE AIR
LET'S GET BOOTS ON THE GROUND



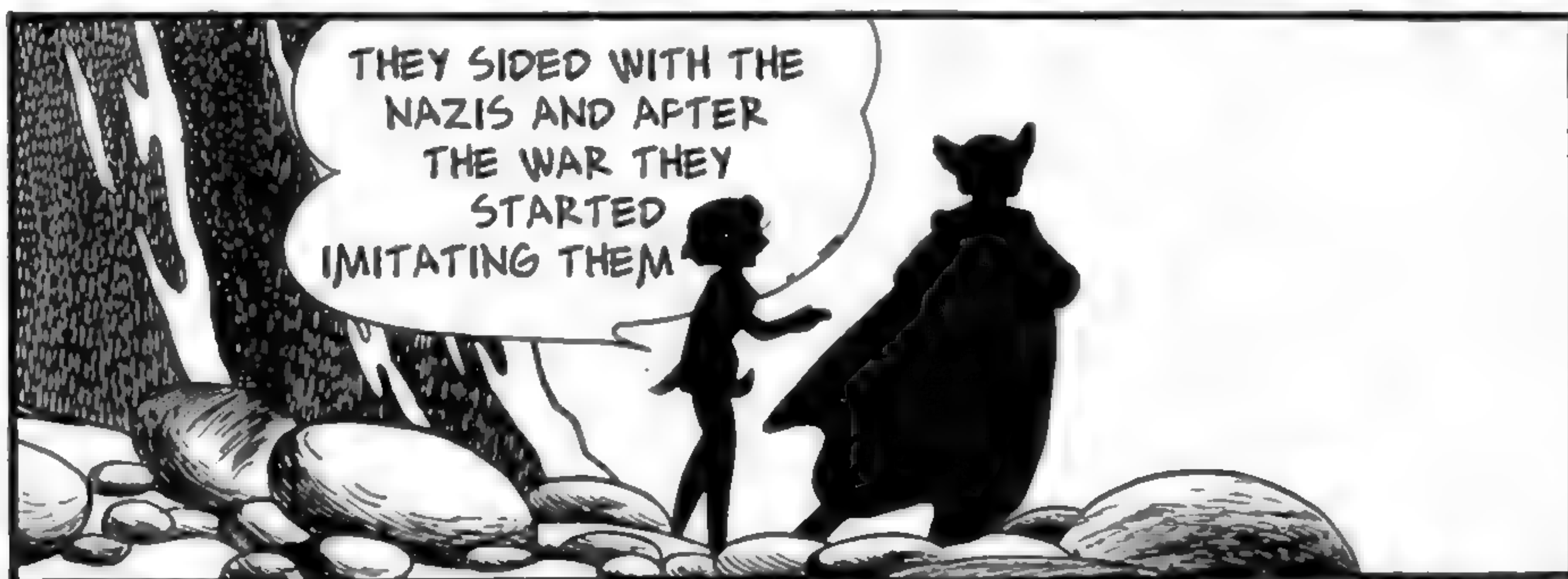

THIS PLACE IS NUTS
WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?


IT'S GONE... HE GAVE UP




IT'S JUST THE WAY THIS PLACE IS.
IT'S LIKE WWII GERMANY, FULL OF NAZIS.


WELL, THIS COUNTRY, CARTHAGE, HAS ALWAYS HAD A PENCHANT FOR WAR

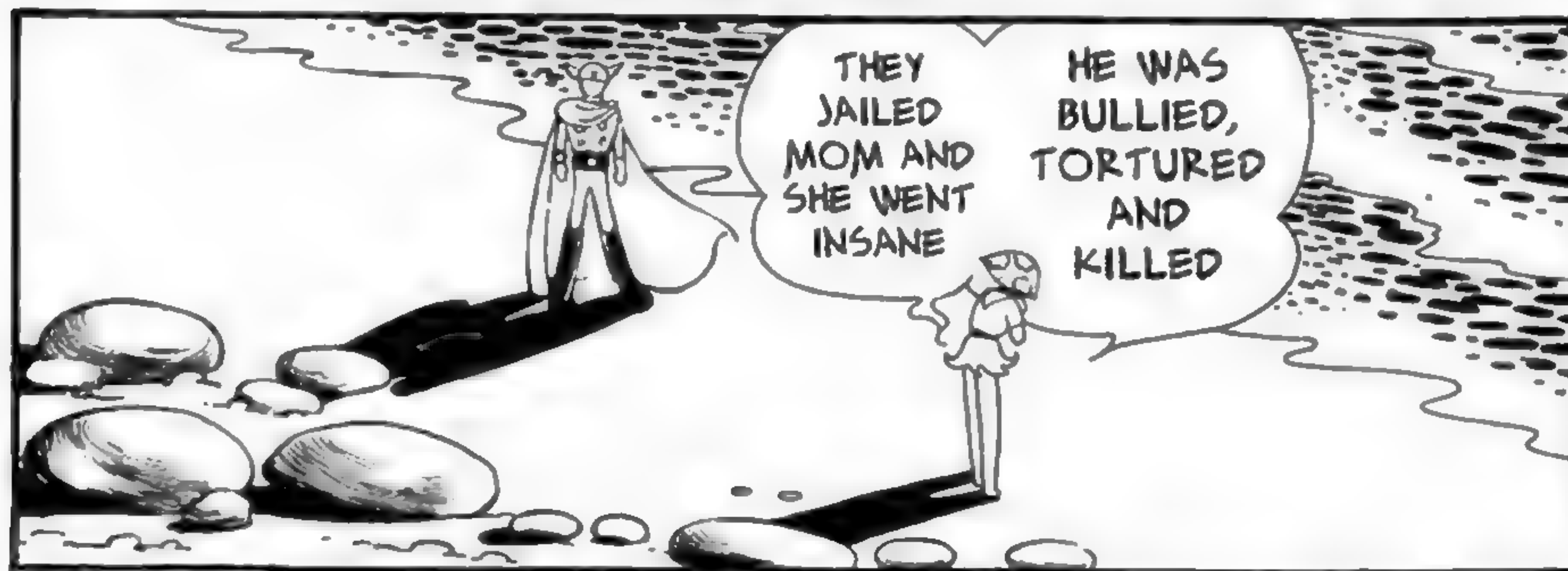

THEY SIDED WITH THE NAZIS AND AFTER THE WAR THEY STARTED IMITATING THEM

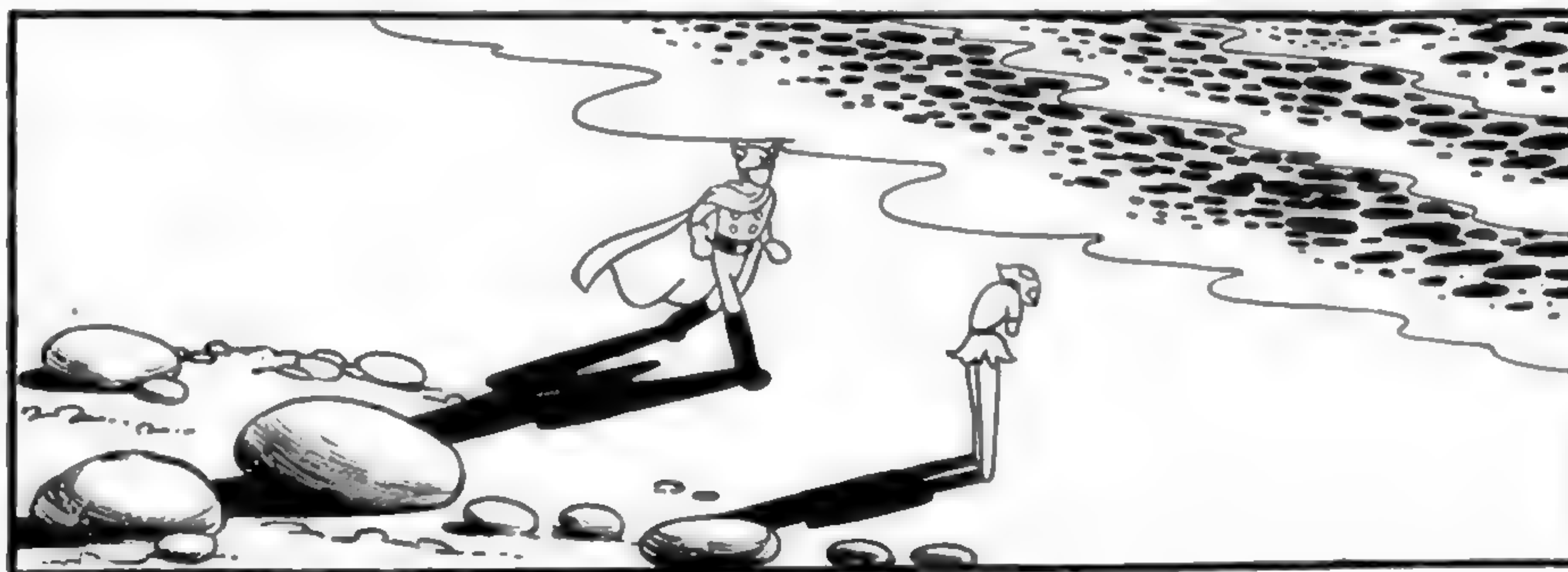

RUMOR HAS IT THAT MANY NAZI SOLDIERS FLED HERE AND ARE IN HIDING
HMM THEN IT'S TRUE


YES THE GOVERNMENT IS JUST LIKE THE NAZIES IN MILITARY AND POLITICAL STANCE
HUH...


THAT WAS HAPPENING TO YOU?
IF YOU DISOBEY THE GOVERNMENT YOU ARE TORTURED AND KILLED

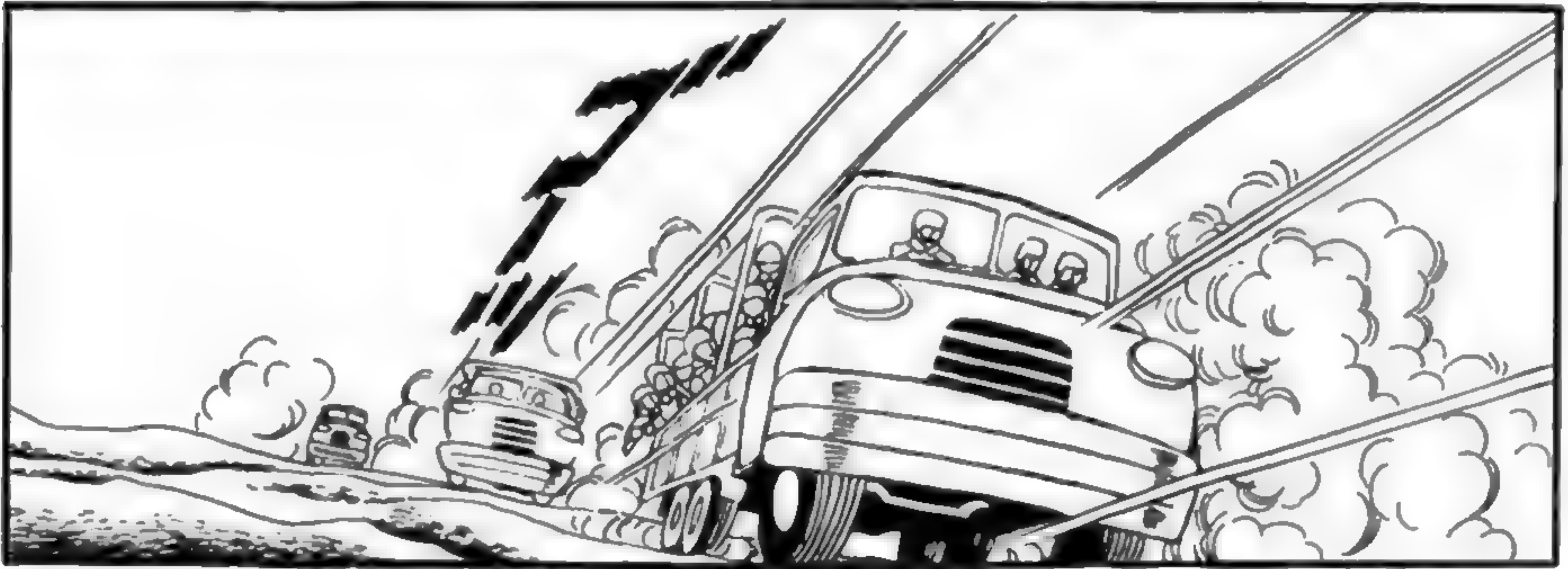

I WASN'T EVEN BORN YET... DAD... HE SAID HE WANTED TO LIVE IN PEACE

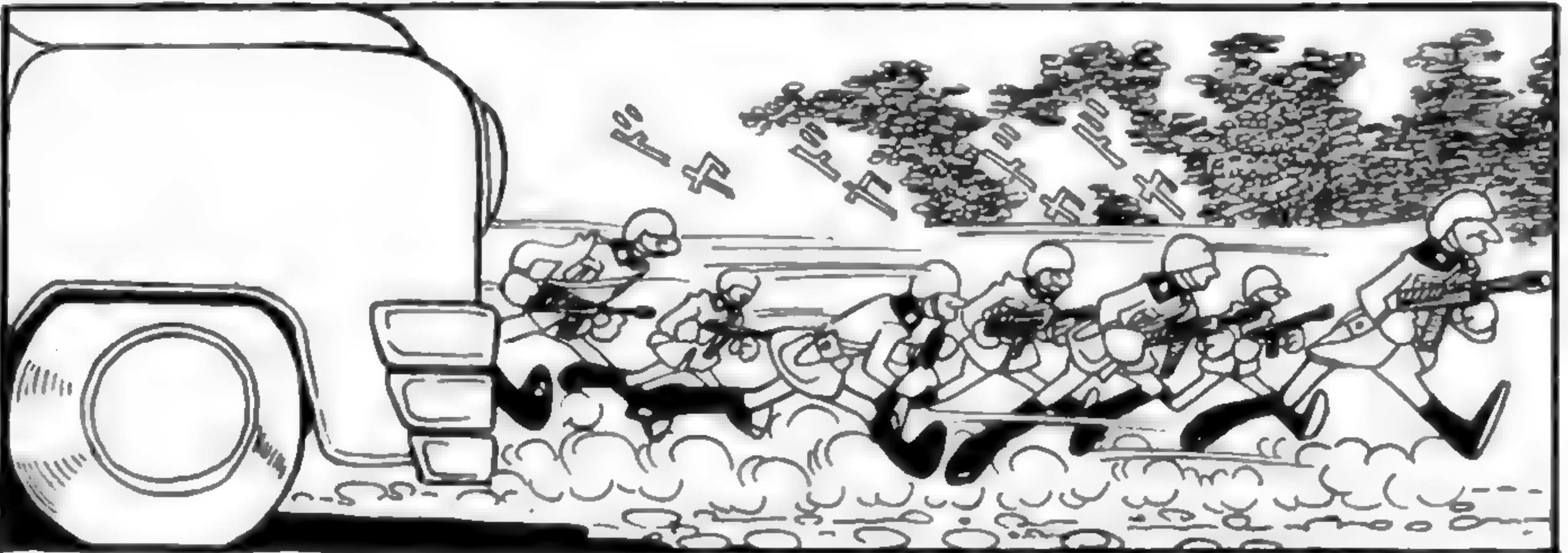

HE WAS BULLIED, TORTURED AND KILLED
THEY JAILED MOM AND SHE WENT INSANE

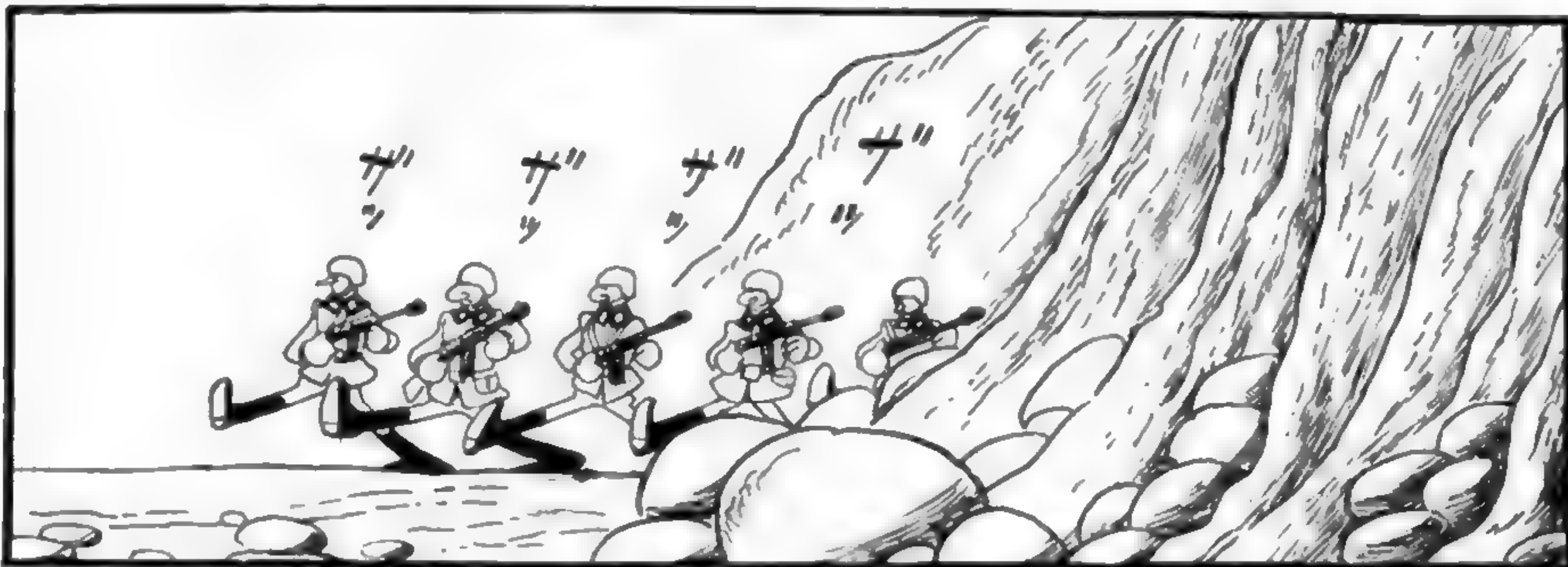


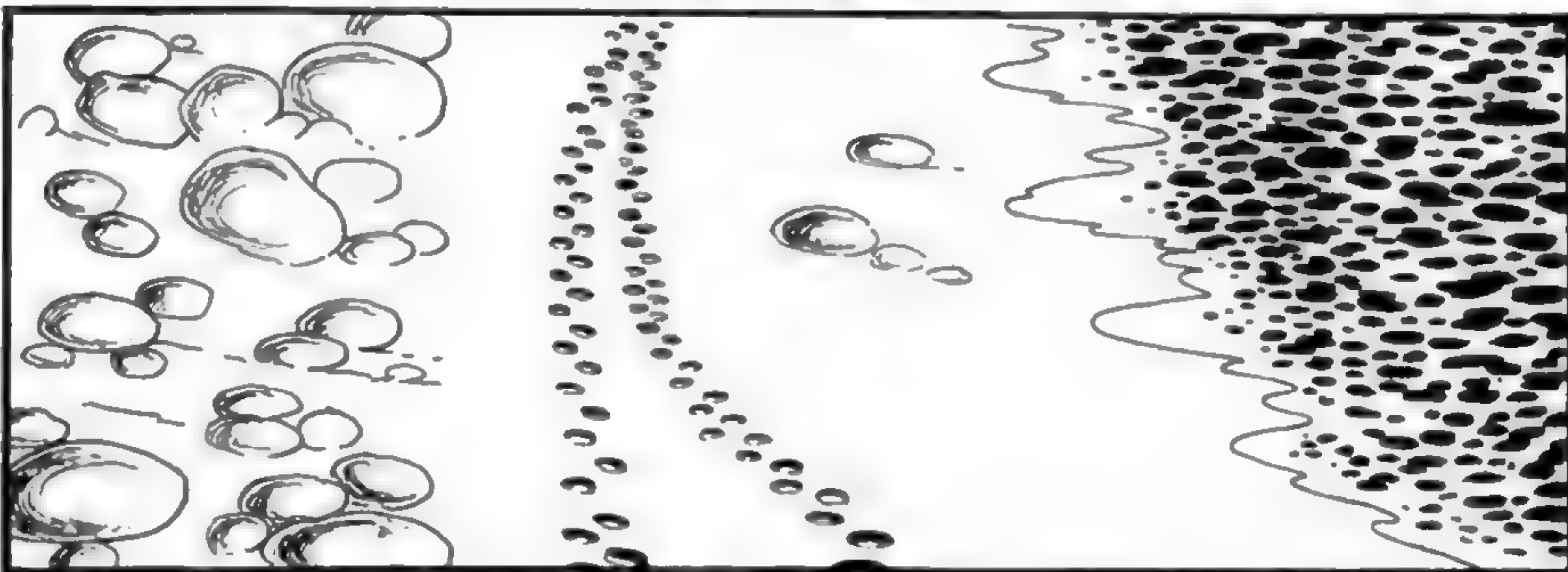

NO SUCH GROUP SHOULD BE ALLOWED ON THIS EARTH


WE'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET THIS COUNTRY BACK ON TRACK
WE HAVE TO FIGHT THEM



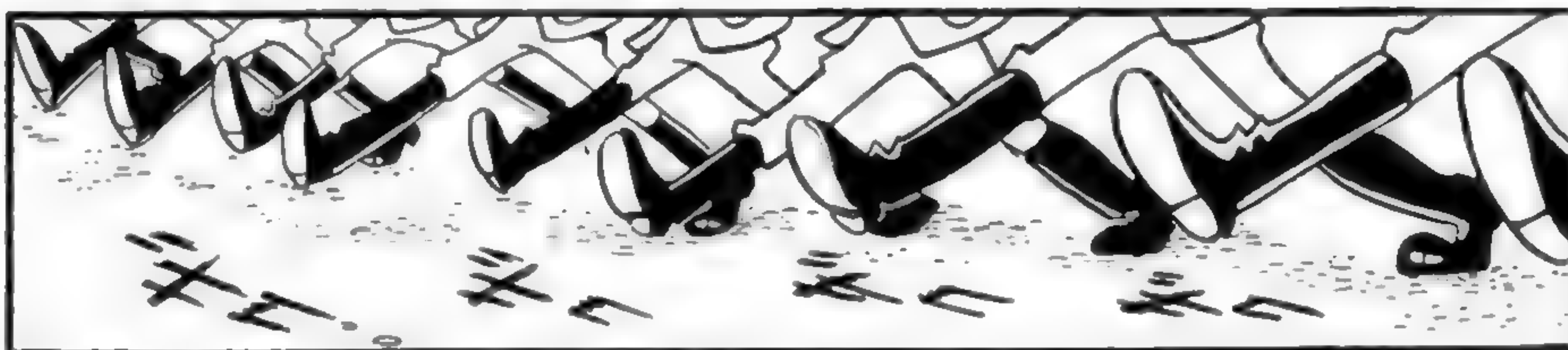


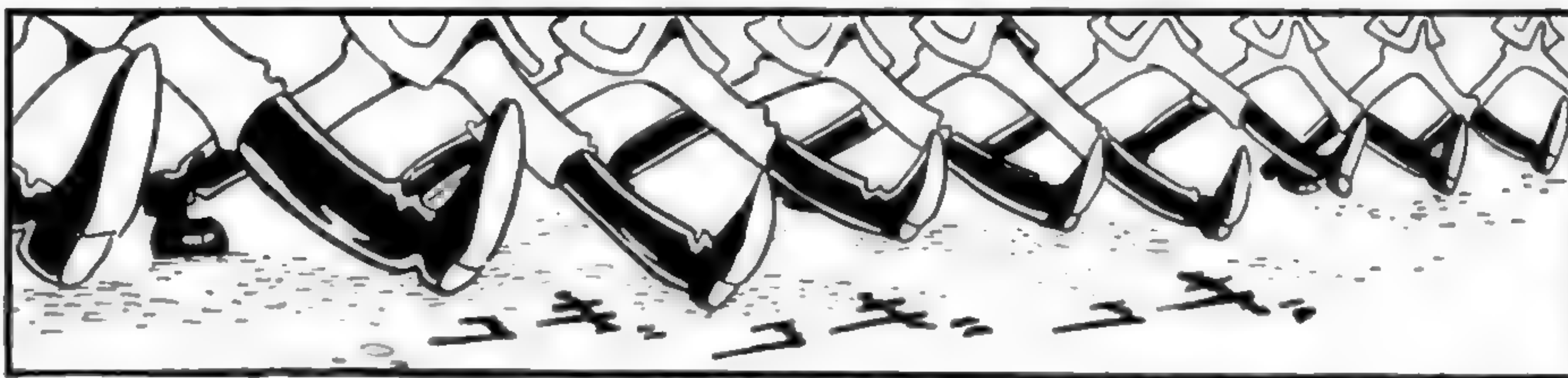


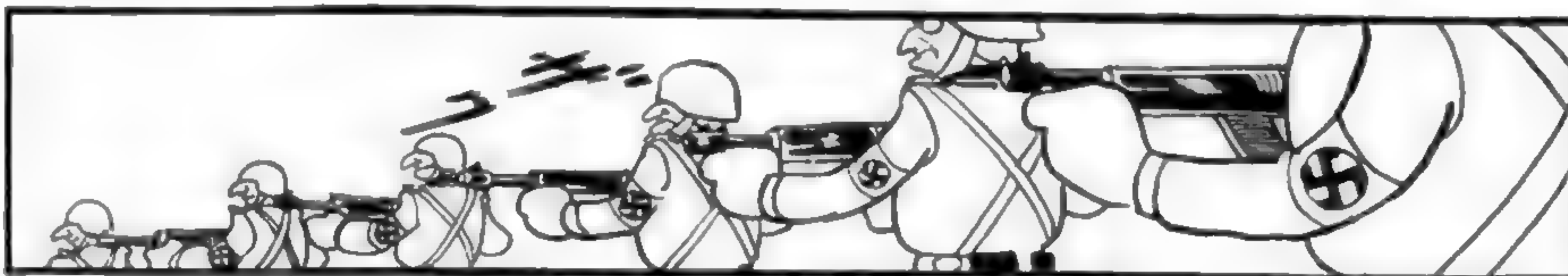


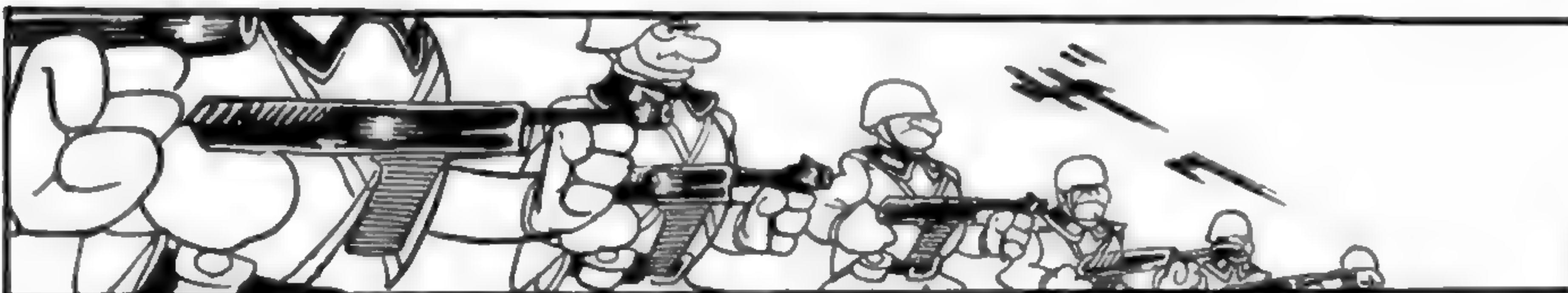
INFANTRY IS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BEACH AND SWEEPING IN.

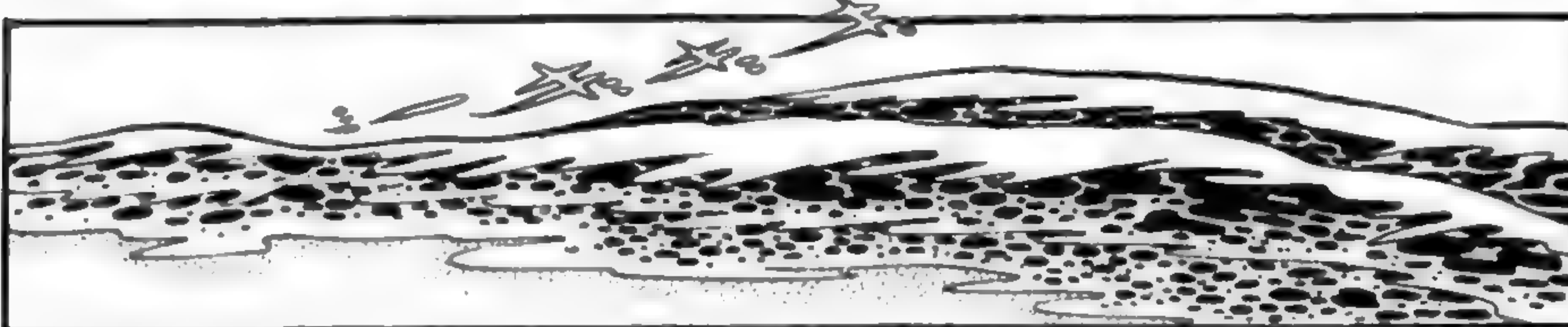

REPORT FROM THE BEACH. THERE'S NO SIGN OF THE TWO, BUT THERE'S NO WAY TO ESCAPE

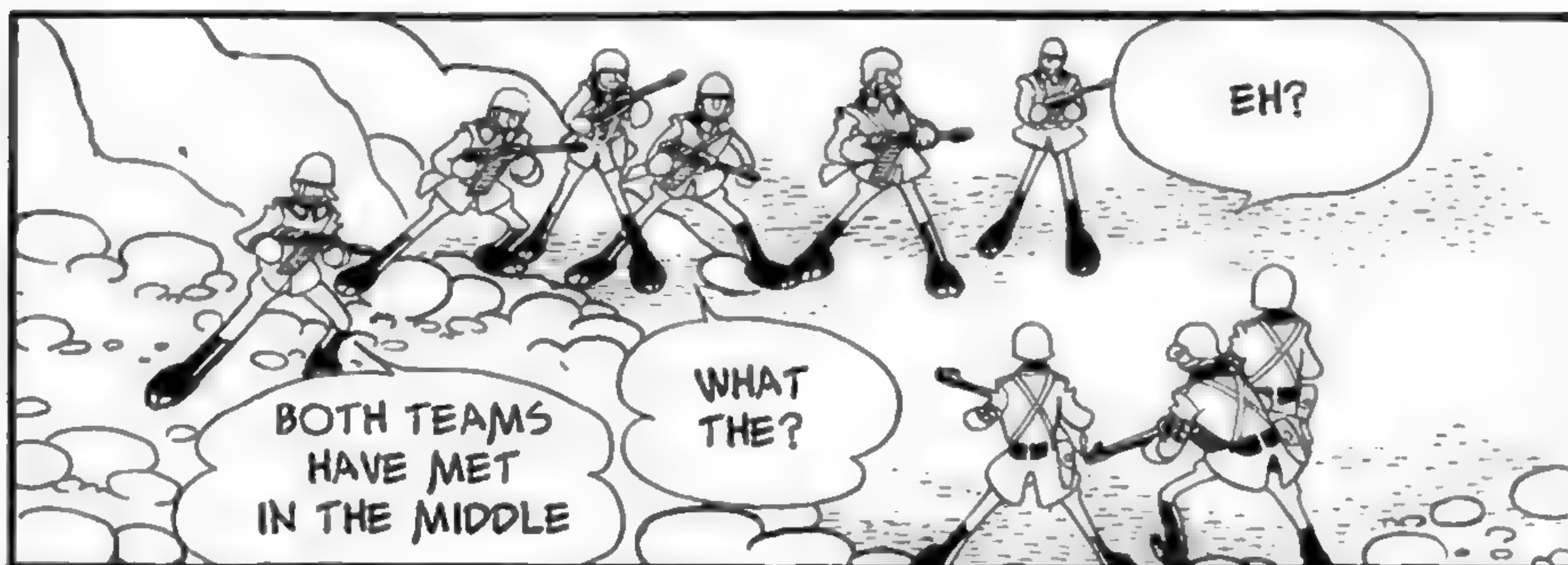








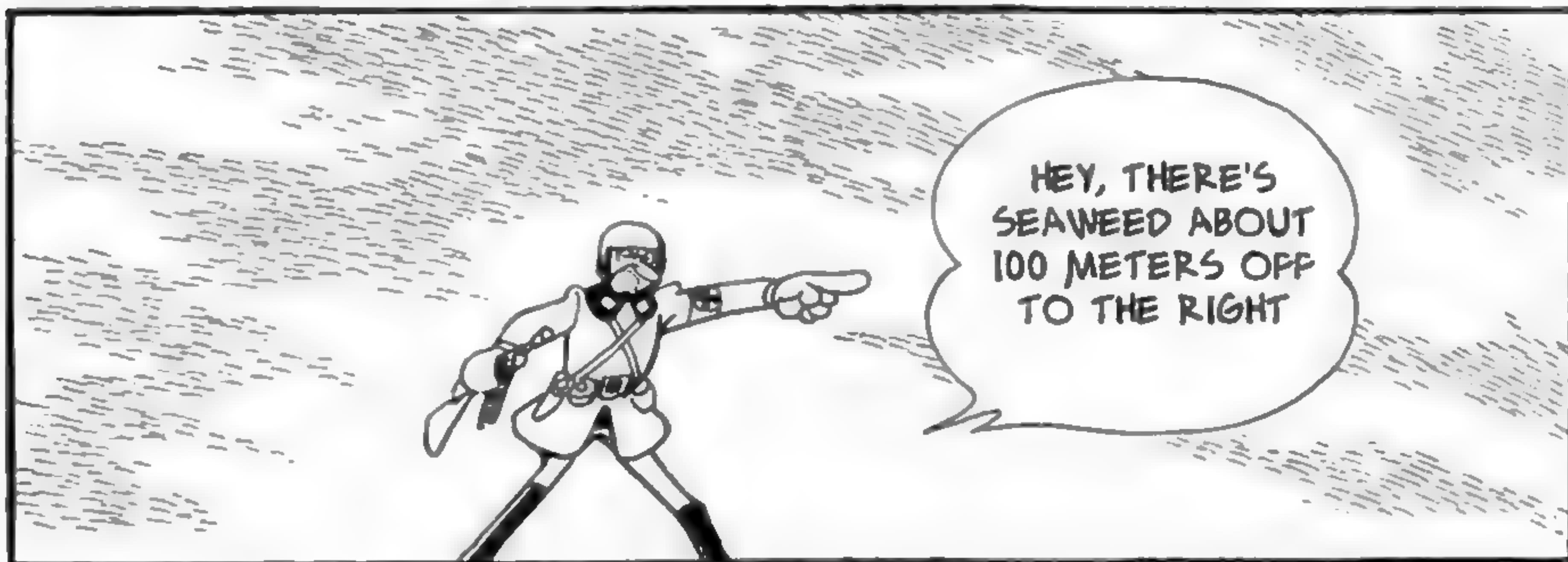


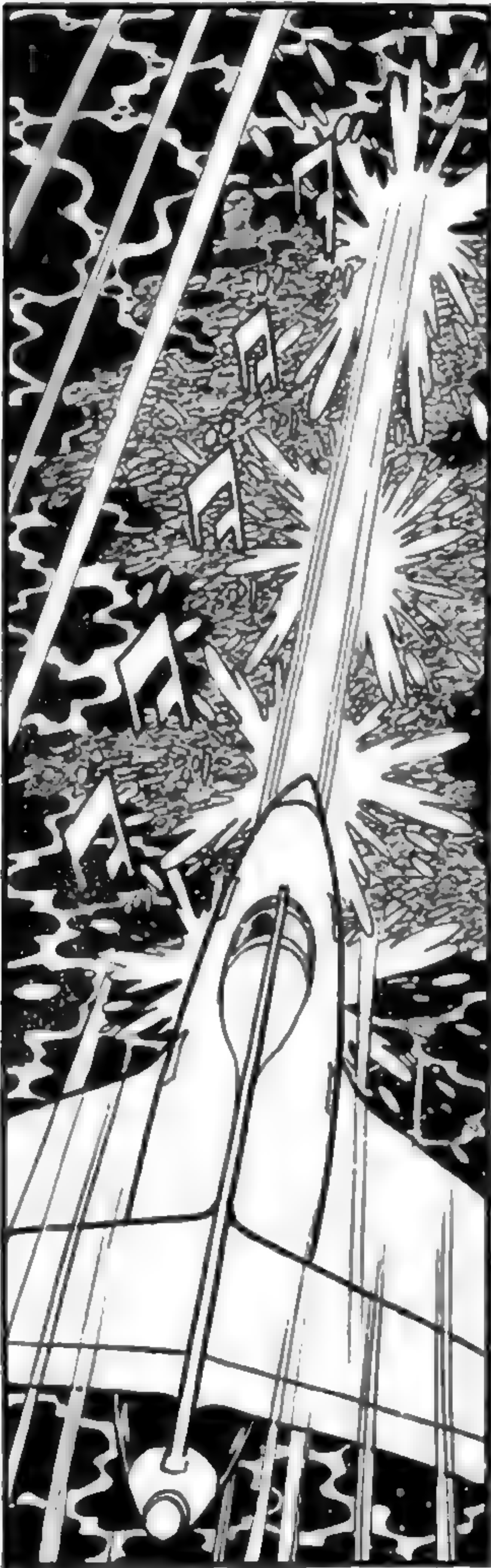

EH?
WHAT THE?
BOTH TEAMS HAVE MET IN THE MIDDLE

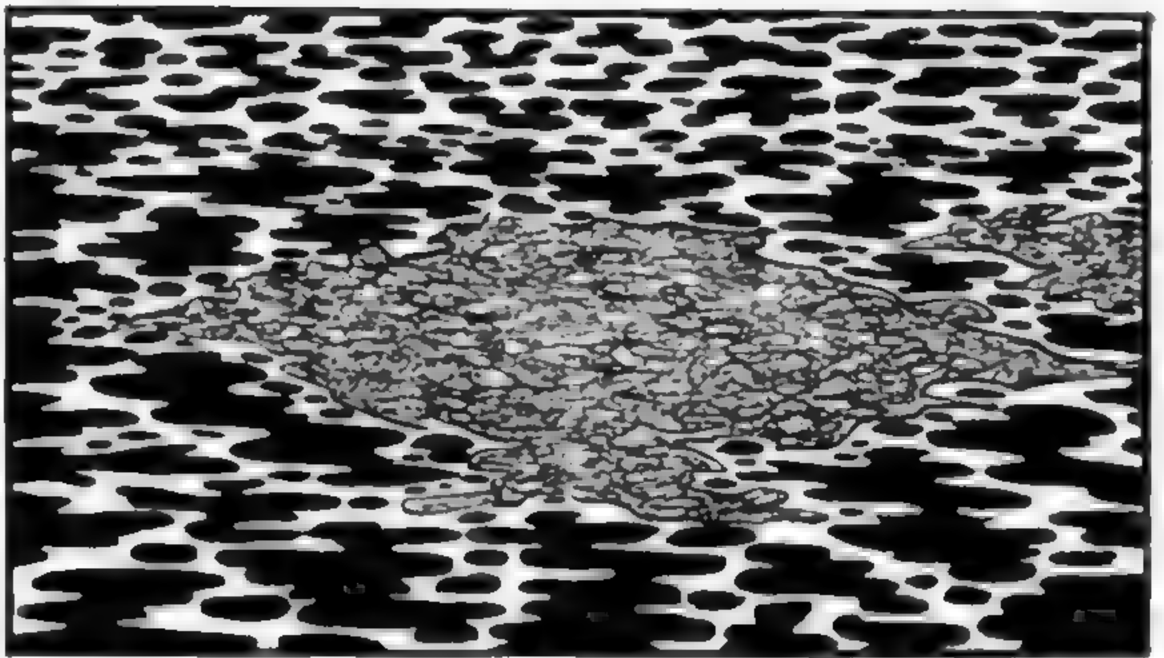

WE DIDN'T SEE THEM. WHAT ABOUT YOU GUYS?
WE DIDN'T FIND EM!
MAYBE THEY WENT UP THE CLIFF?
I DIDN'T SEE THEM EITHER


I DON'T SEE ANYTHING ON THE WATER
THEY MUST'VE GONE IN THE SEA

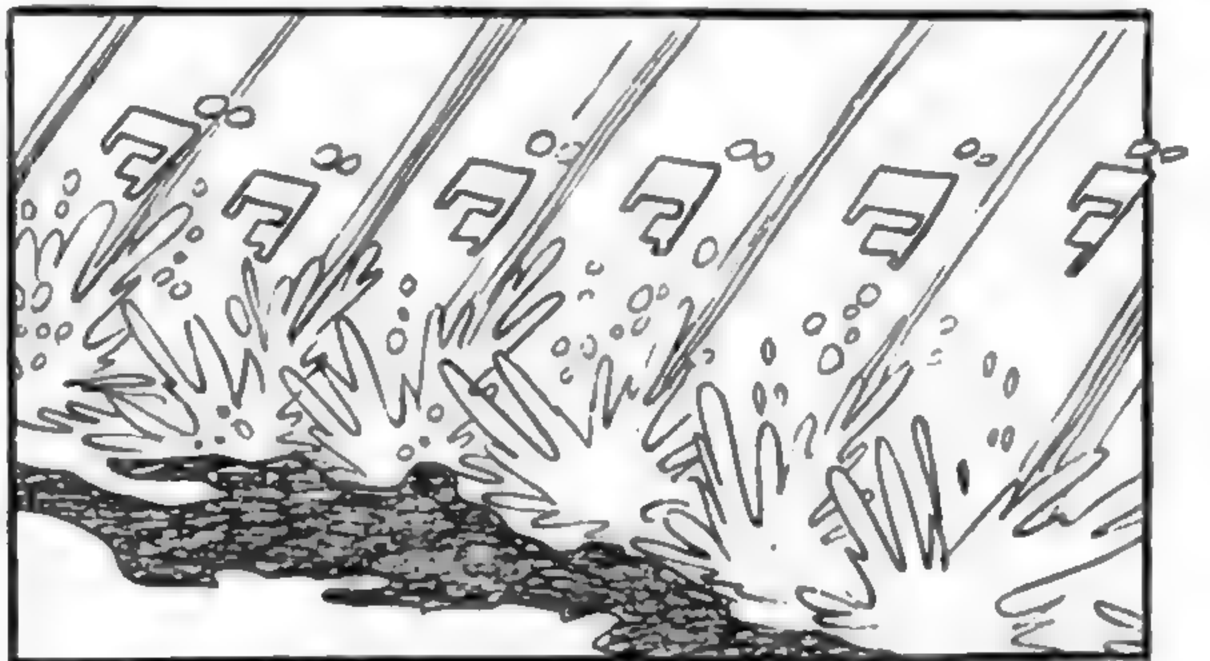

THEY'RE NOT UP HERE!
THEN WHERE ARE THEY?

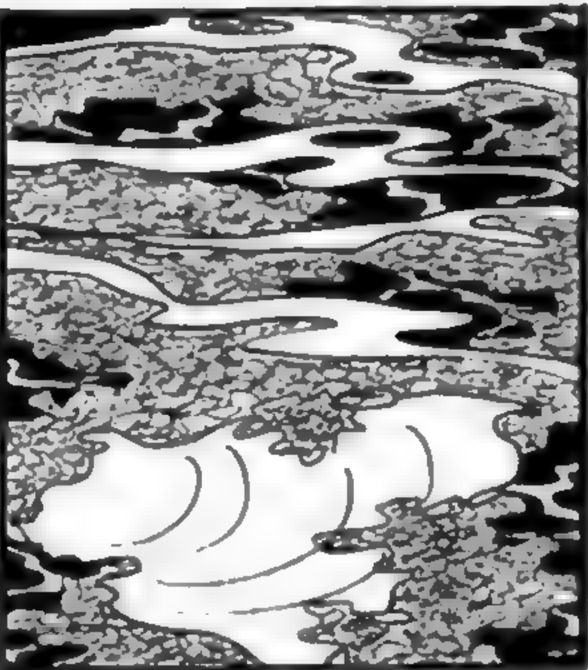

HEY, THERE'S SEAWEED ABOUT 100 METERS OFF TO THE RIGHT

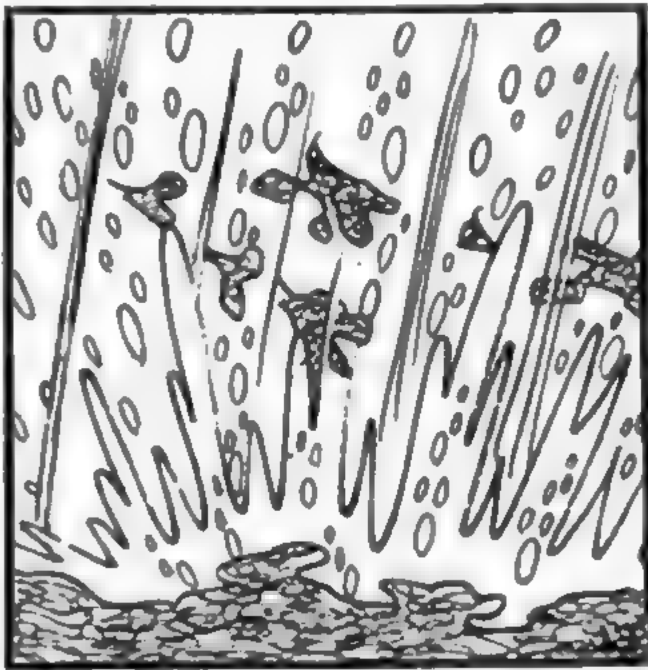


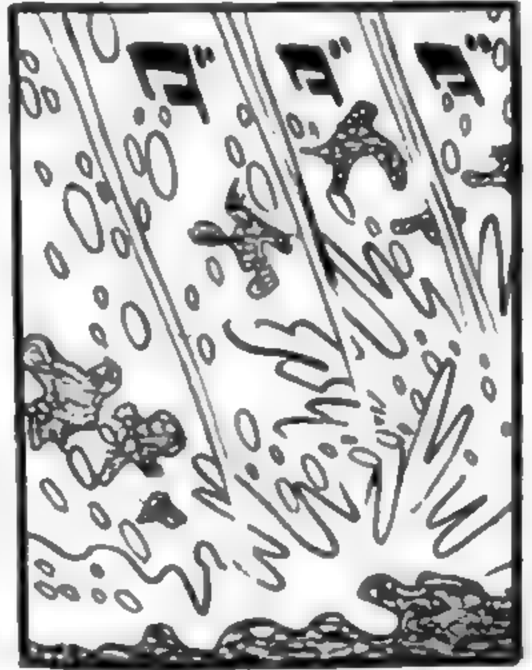


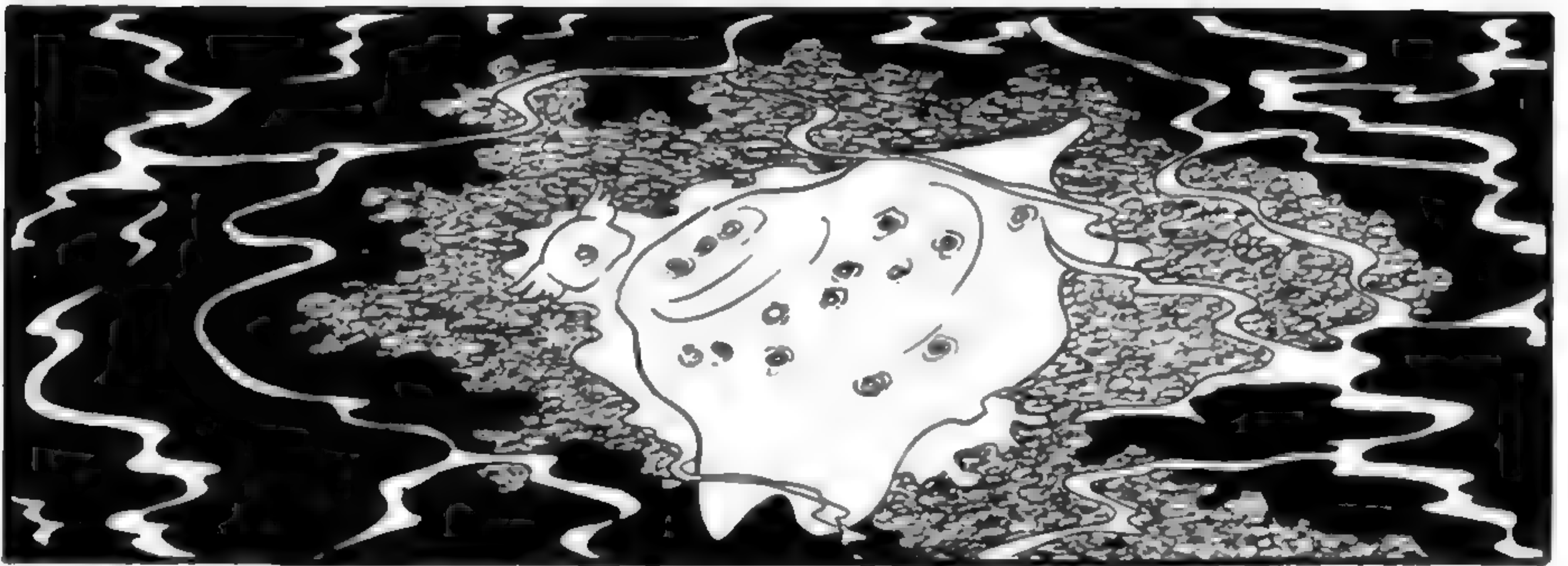

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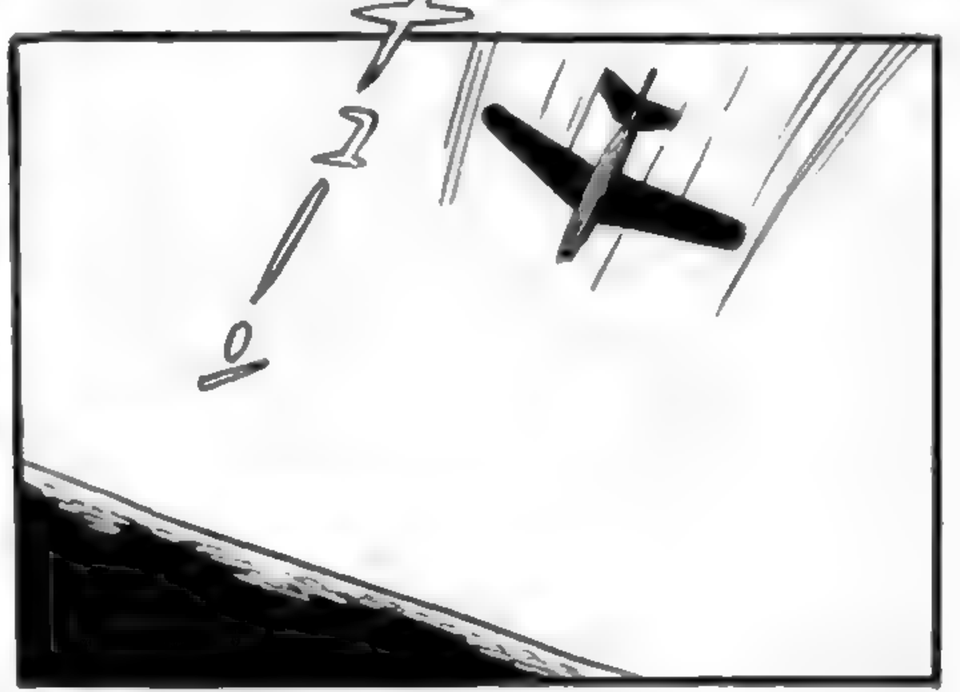








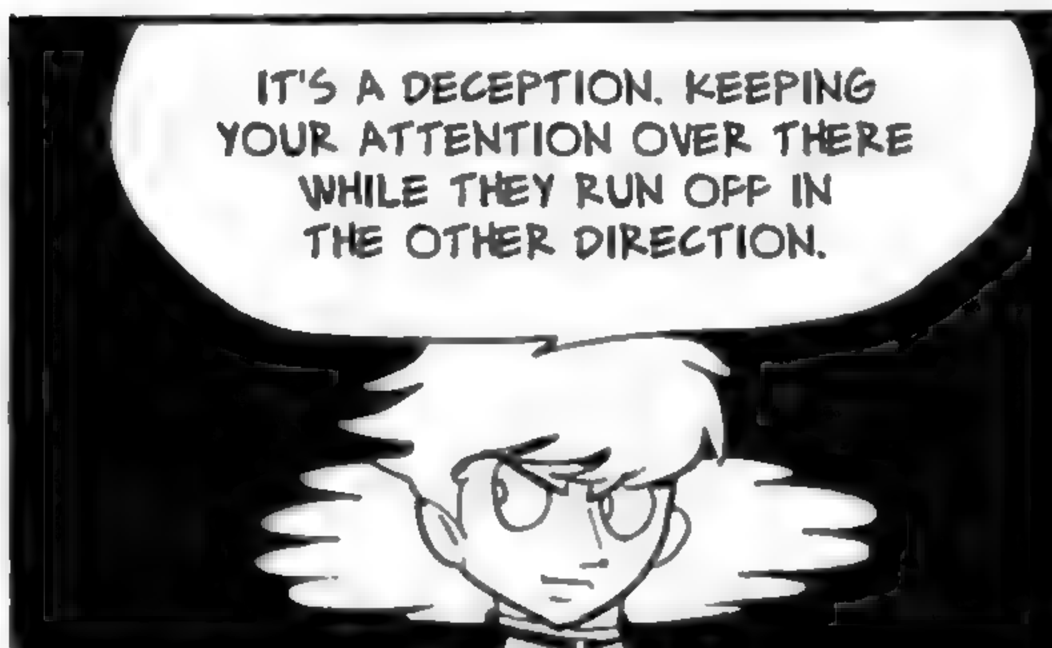

LOOKS LIKE BIG X WAS HIT WHEN WE STRAFED THE SEAWEED. HE MUST BE DEAD!
SO MUCH FOR HIS CUNNING



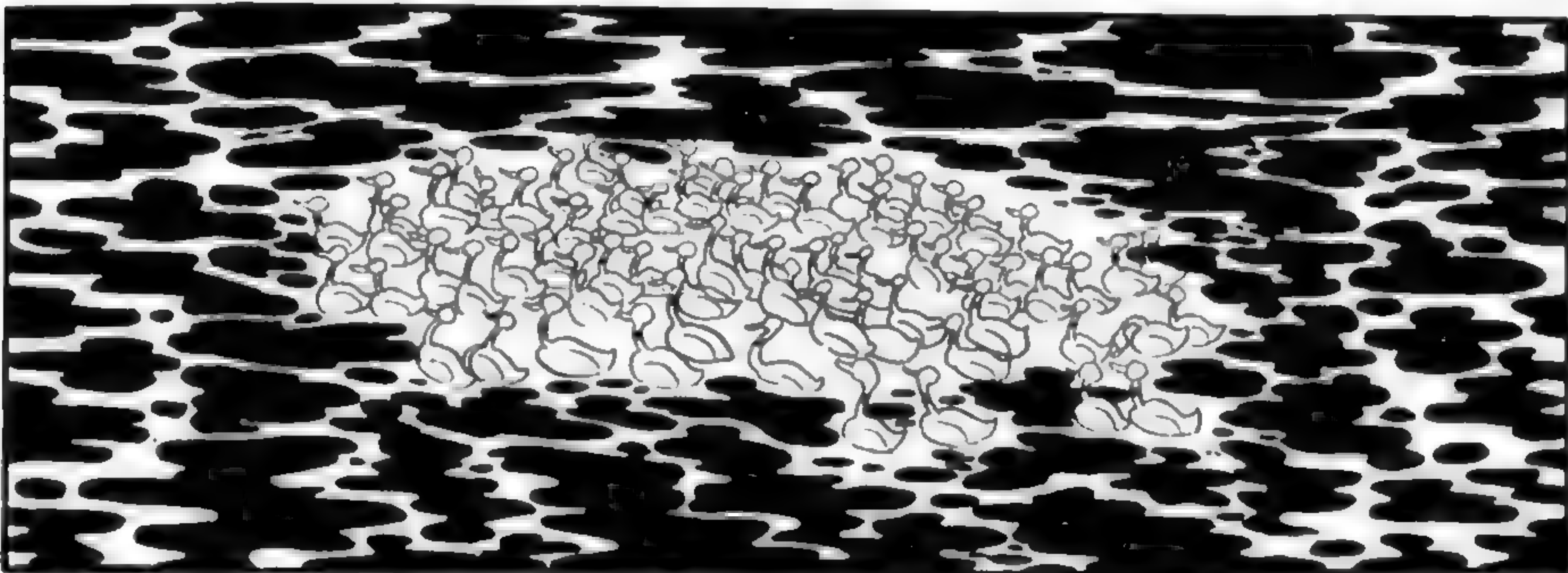

TELL THE CHIEF, BIG X IS DEAD!
THEY WERE GOING TO TRY TO ESCAPE IN THE SEAWEED

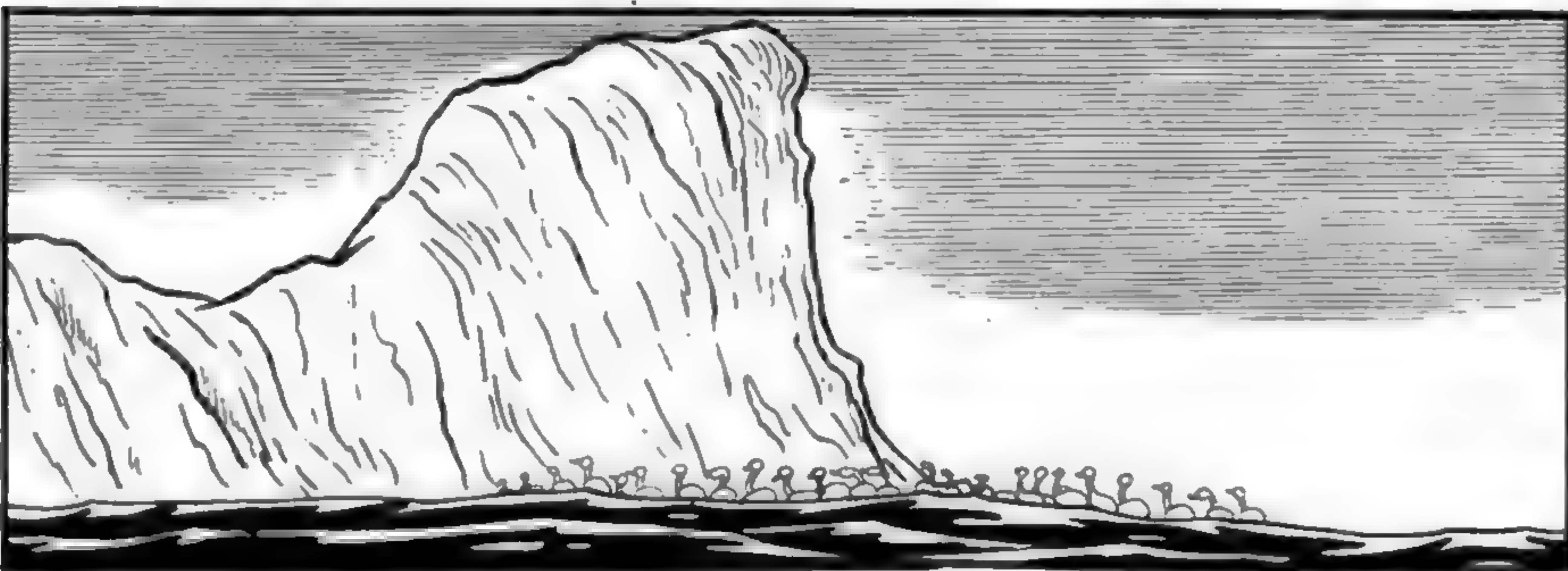

SIR! AIR PATROL REPORTS THAT BIG X WAS SHOT DEAD IN THE SEA.
IDIOT! YOU REALLY THINK BIG X WOULD DIE FROM A MACHINE GUN STRAFE?

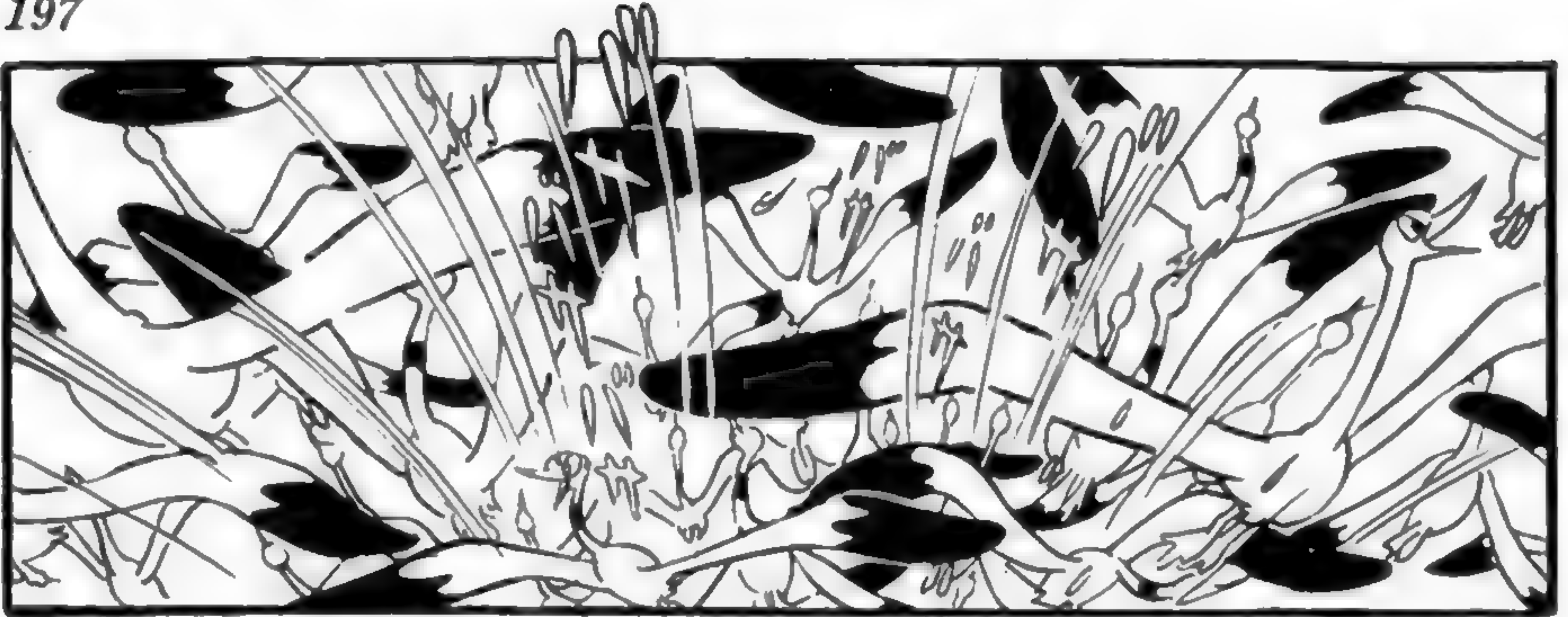

WHAT DO YOU THINK?!
THEN WE SHOULD KEEP LOOKING...


IT'S A DECEPTION. KEEPING YOUR ATTENTION OVER THERE WHILE THEY RUN OFF IN THE OTHER DIRECTION.

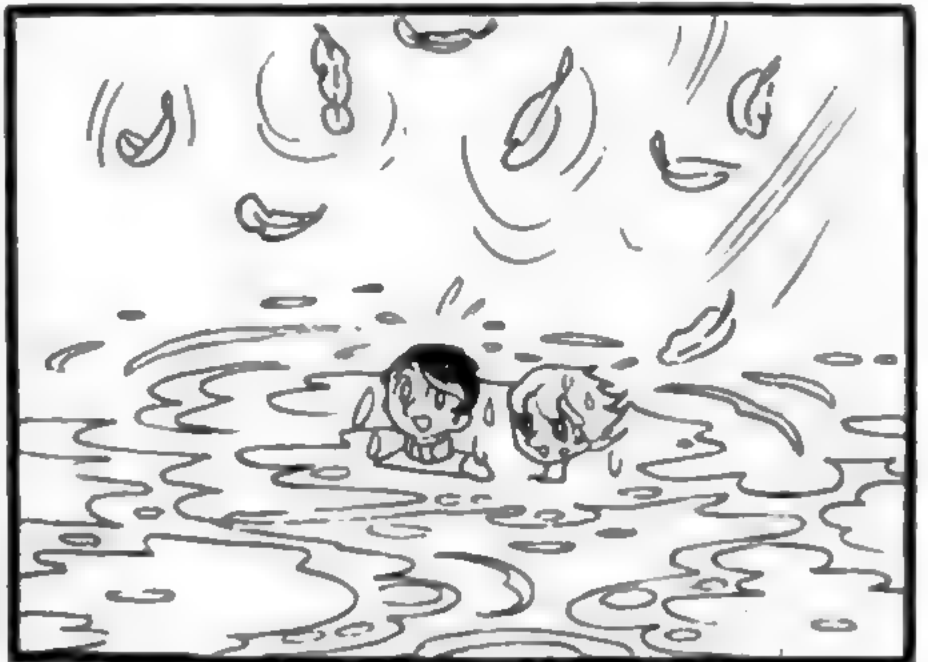




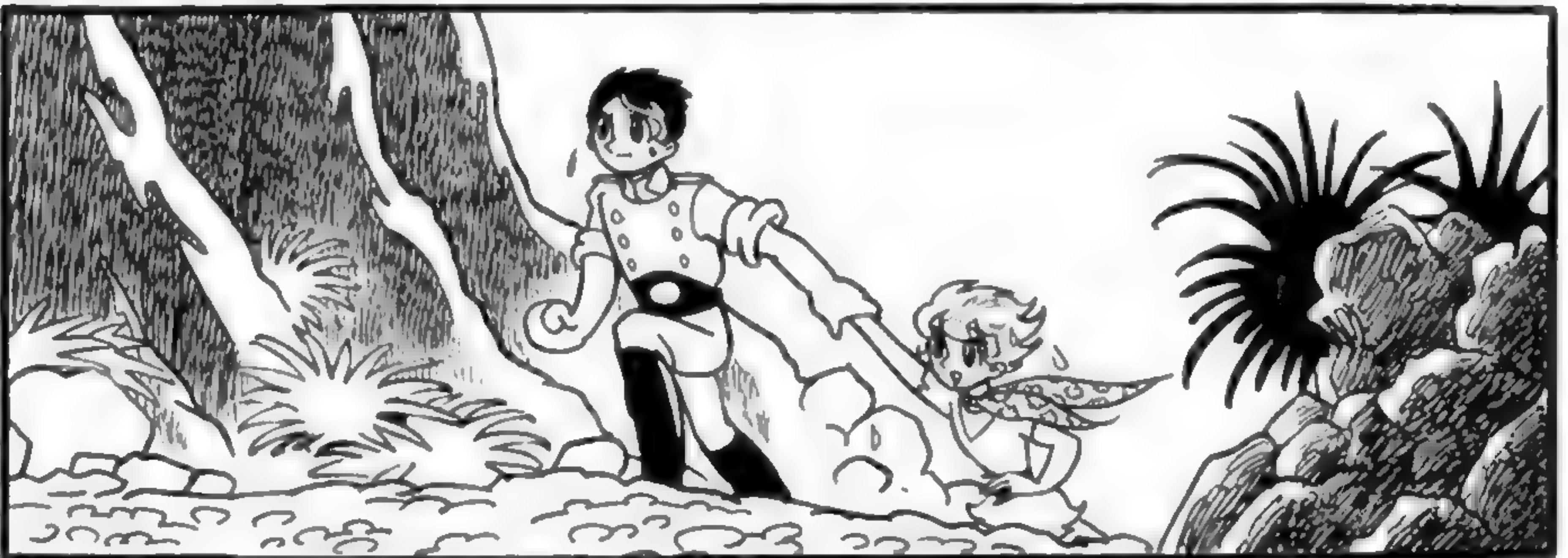





THANKS TO YOUR POWERS WE WERE SAVED!

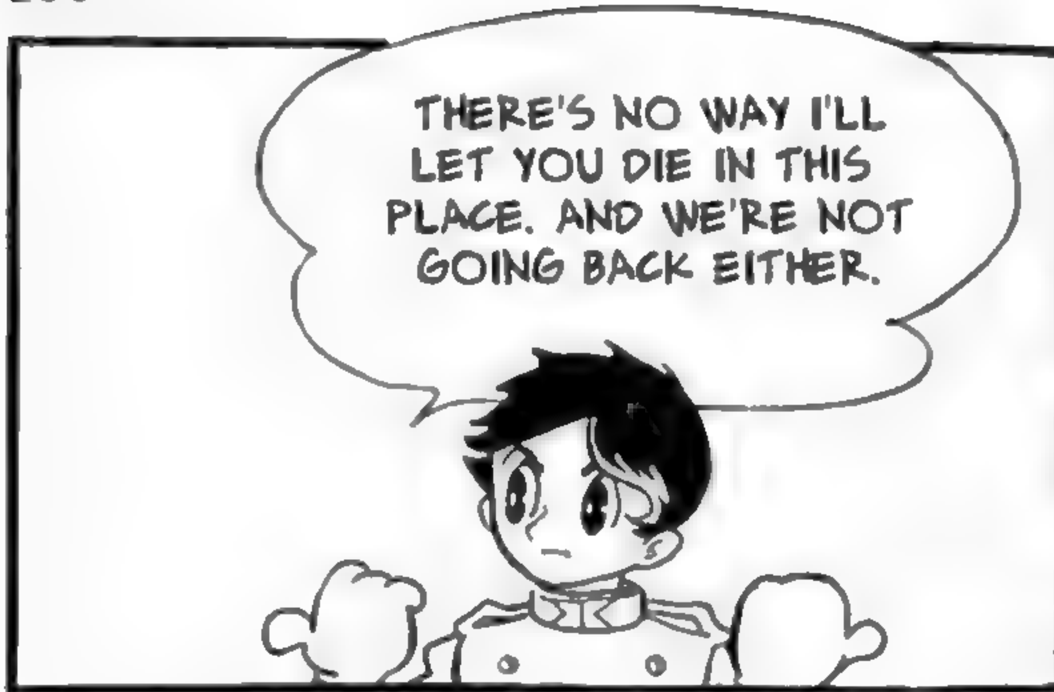



LET'S GO THIS WAY, IT JUST MIGHT LEAD US OUT OF HERE.

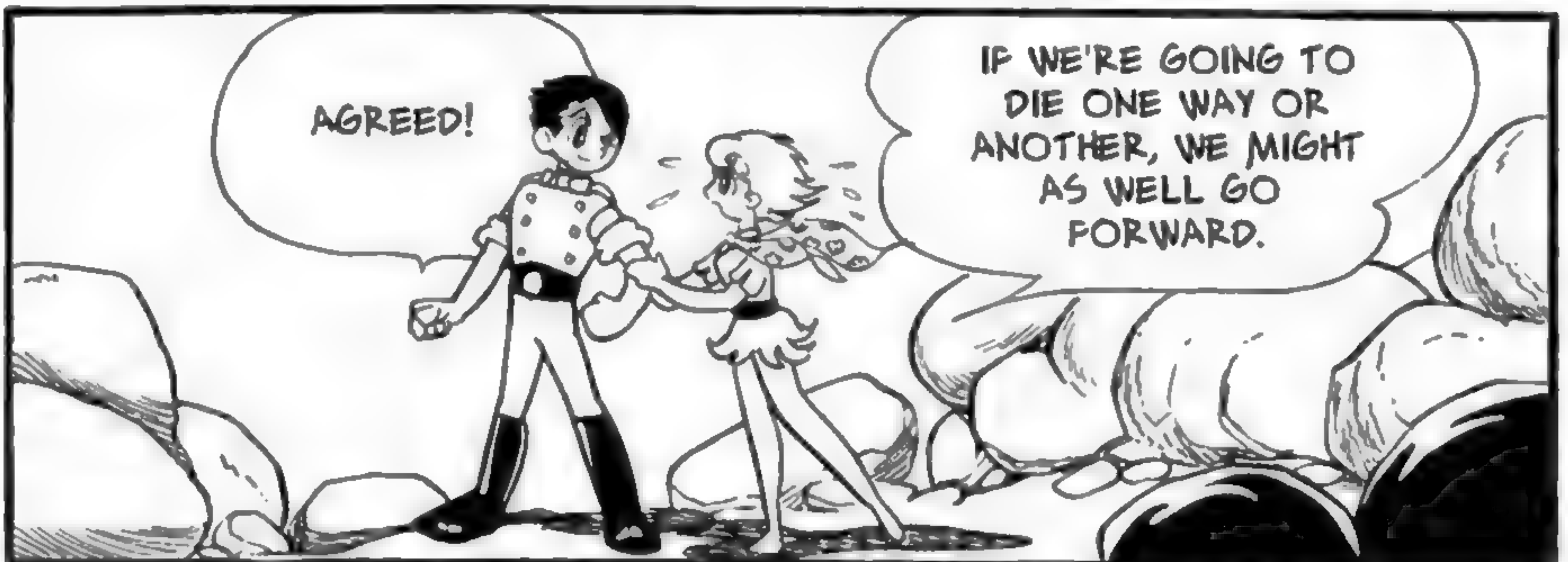


OH!
....


WHEN THE WARDEN SAID "IT'S USELESS TO TRY TO ESCAPE," HE WAS RIGHT.
WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE IT THROUGH THIS SAND


THERE'S NO WAY I'LL LET YOU DIE IN THIS PLACE. AND WE'RE NOT GOING BACK EITHER.


WHAT WILL WE DO?


IF WE'RE GOING TO DIE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, WE MIGHT AS WELL GO FORWARD.
AGREED!

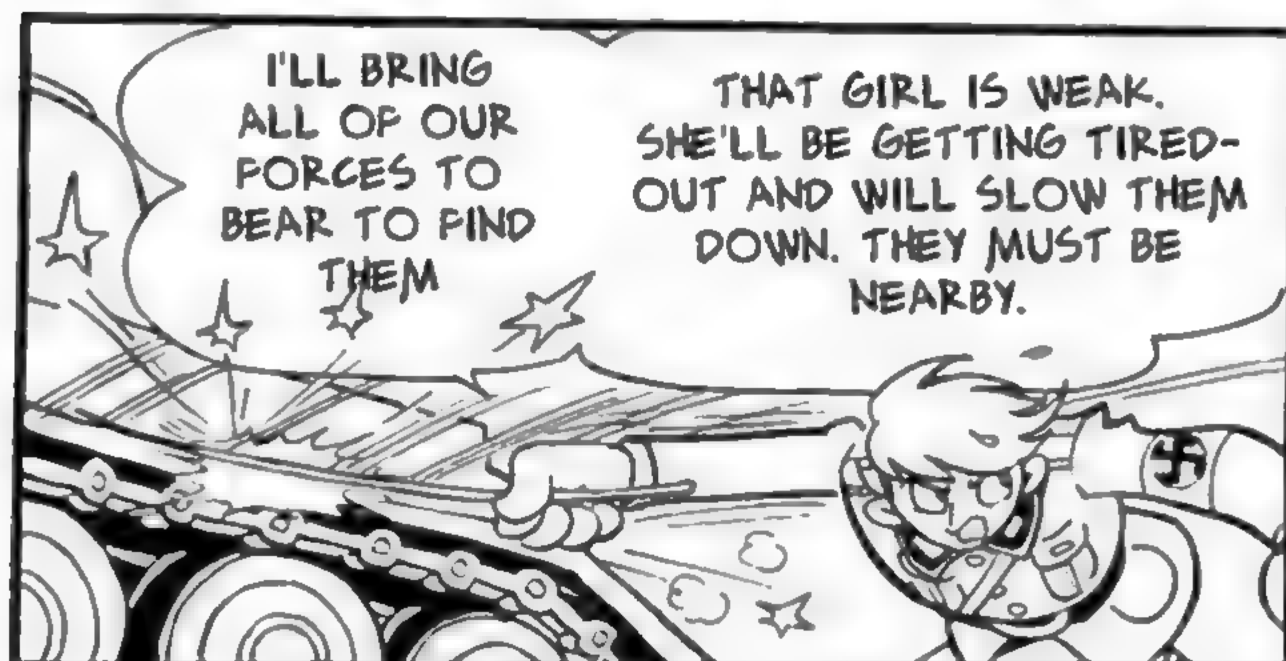

LET'S GET GOING
YES

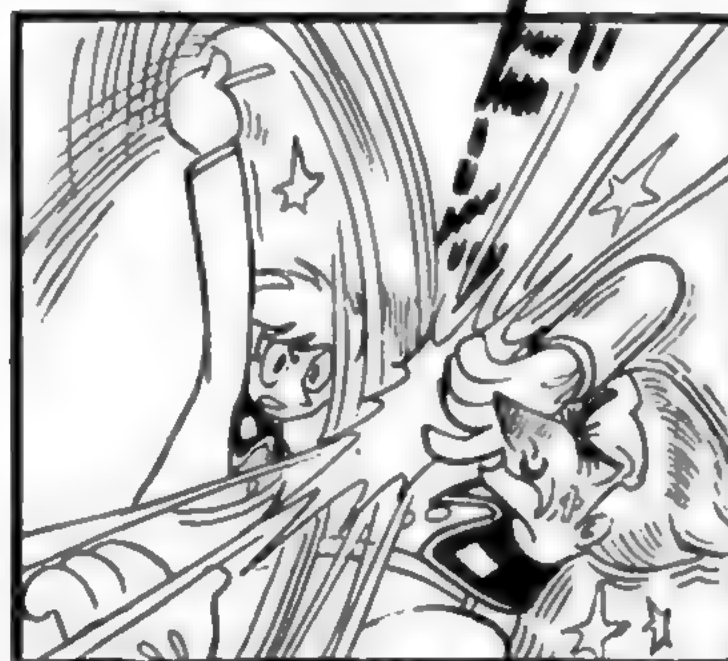



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THANKS FOR SUCH A USEFUL REPORT [sarcasm]
BIG X HAS GONE UP IN A PUFF OF SMOKE AND WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIND HIM ANYWHERE

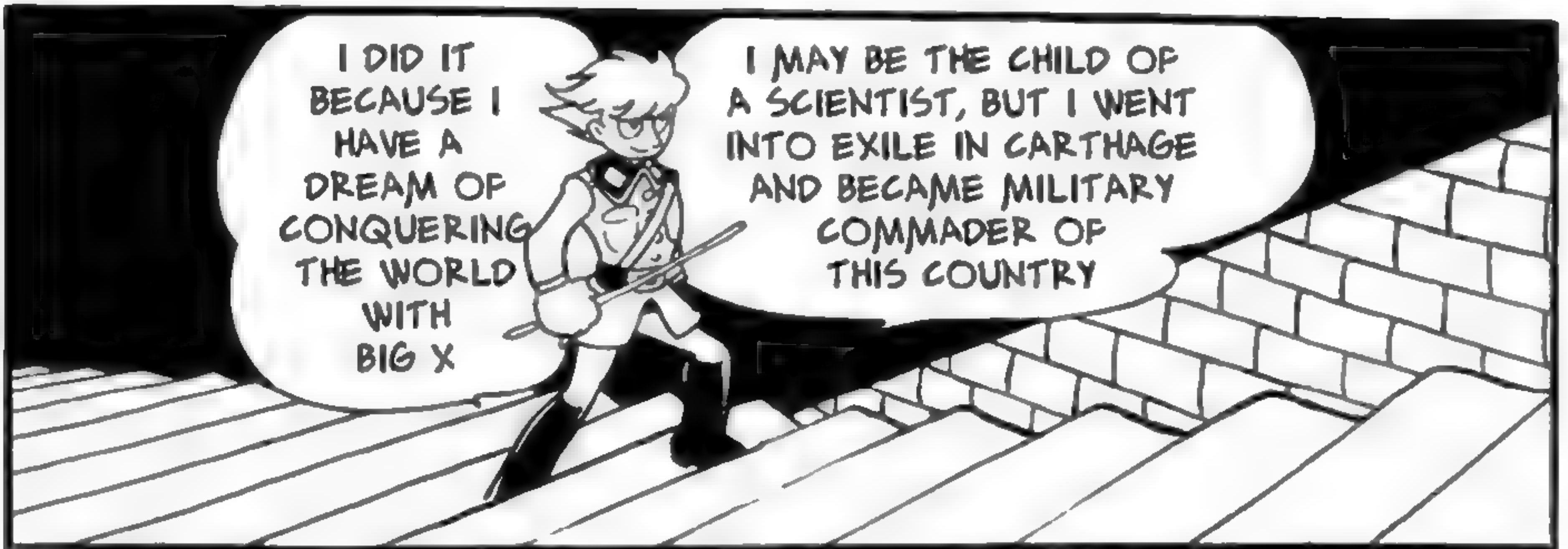



I'LL BRING ALL OF OUR FORCES TO BEAR TO FIND THEM
THAT GIRL IS WEAK. SHE'LL BE GETTING TIRED-OUT AND WILL SLOW THEM DOWN. THEY MUST BE NEARBY.



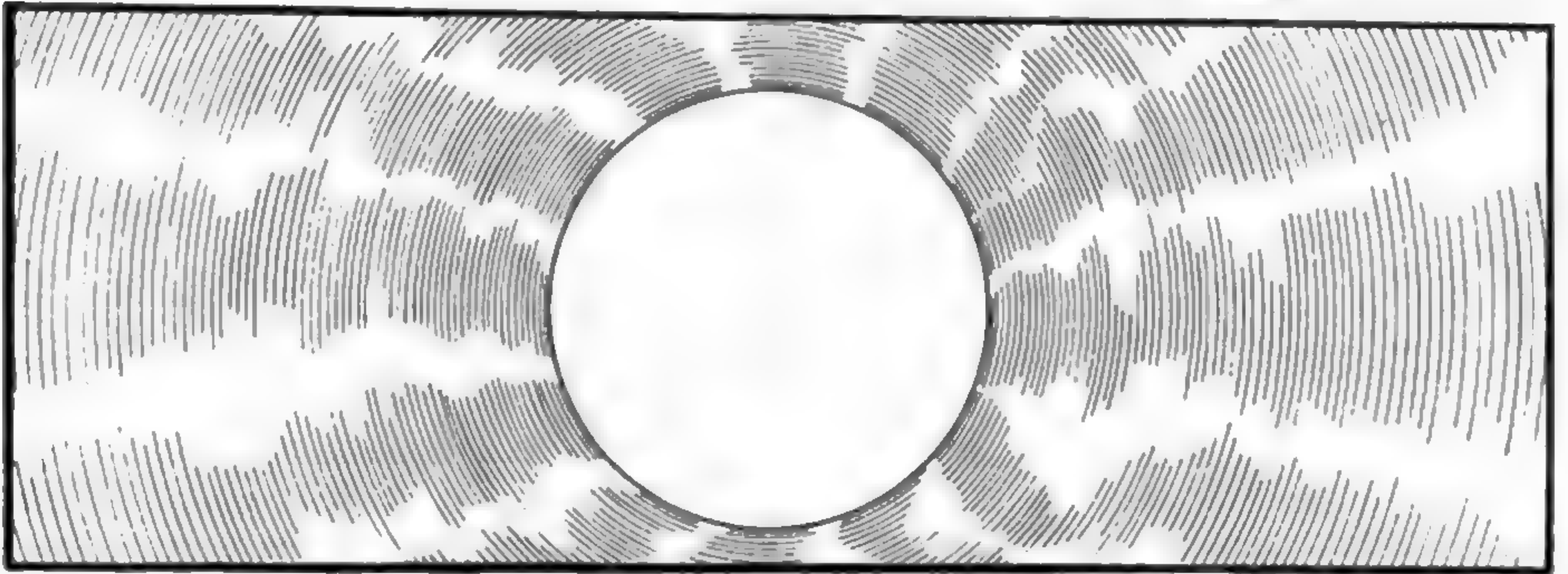

BUT ISN'T THIS GETTING BLOWN OUT OF PROPORTION?
WHAT? WHAT DID YOU SAY?


DON'T YOU GET IT... WITH THE BIG X SERUM OUR GREAT COUNTRY WILL REIGN SUPREME OVER THE WORLD


I DID IT BECAUSE I HAVE A DREAM OF CONQUERING THE WORLD WITH BIG X
I MAY BE THE CHILD OF A SCIENTIST, BUT I WENT INTO EXILE IN CARTHAGE AND BECAME MILITARY COMMADER OF THIS COUNTRY


LOOK FOR THEM IN THE SANDS!


I CAN'T WAIT TO GET AHOLD OF MY GRANDFATHER'S INVENTION AND CONTROL IT MYSELF!




HANG IN THERE NINA, THERE'S SHADE OVER THERE.




THE HEAT IS KILLING US.




IT'S A RATTLE-SNAKE!


AH..

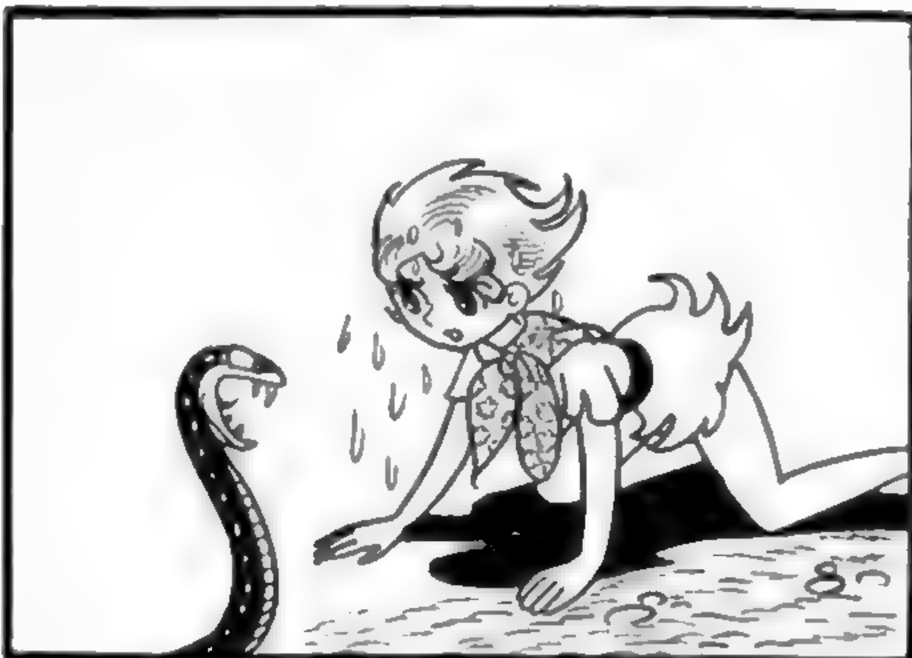



BE CARE-FUL NINA!

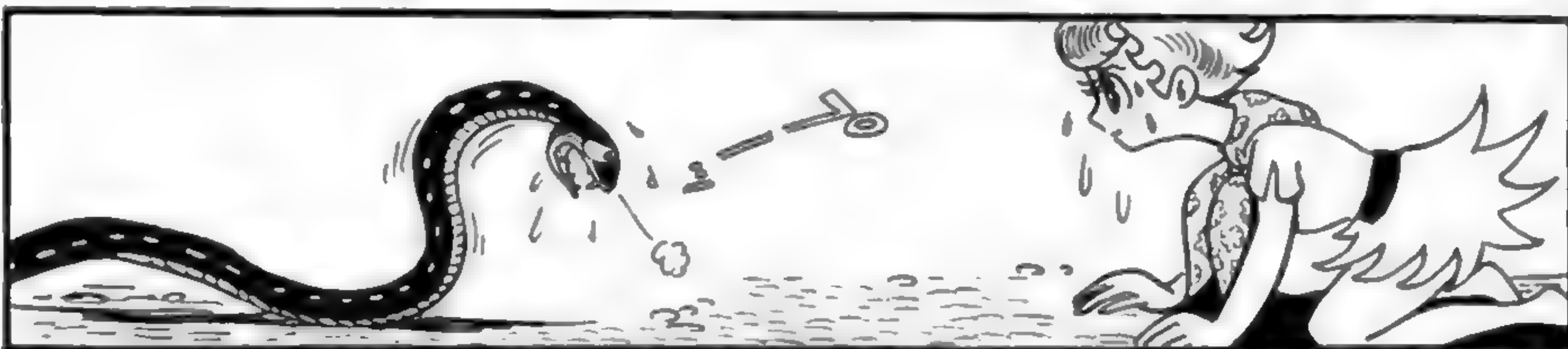





JUST WAIT .....




I GET IT YOU'RE USING YOUR POWERS




NINA, YOU SEEM TO HAVE MADE A FRIEND


WE SHOULD FOLLOW THIS SNAKE
I WAS ASKING HIM TO TAKE US TO WATER

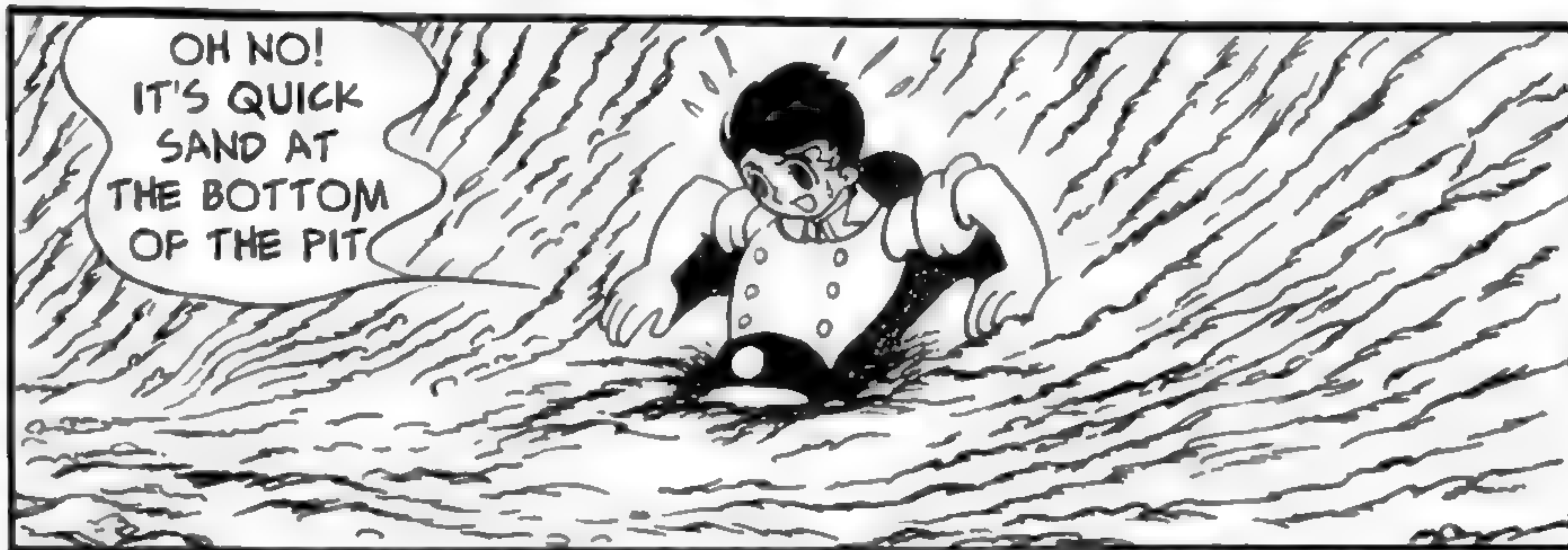

IT'S A DESERT SNAKE, SO IT'S BOUND TO KNOW WHERE TO FIND IT


TO WATER?


WE'RE SAVED!

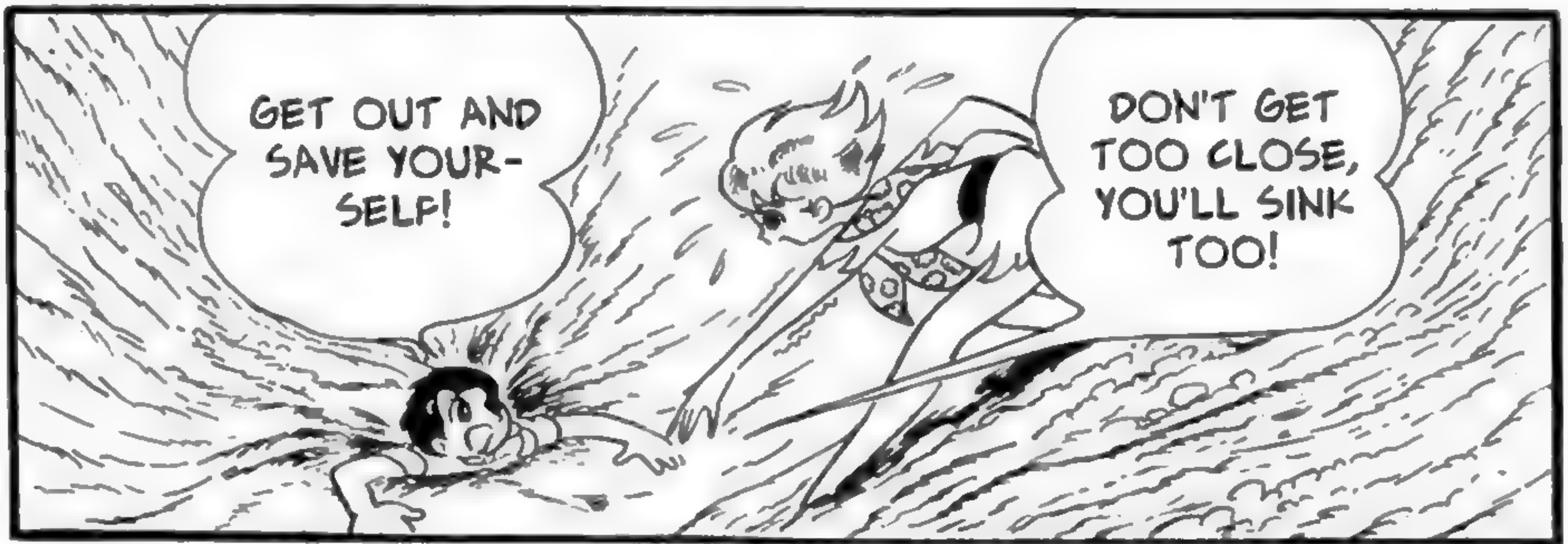

WATER! IT'S TRUE, JUST LIKE NINA SAID!




OH NO! IT'S QUICK SAND AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PIT



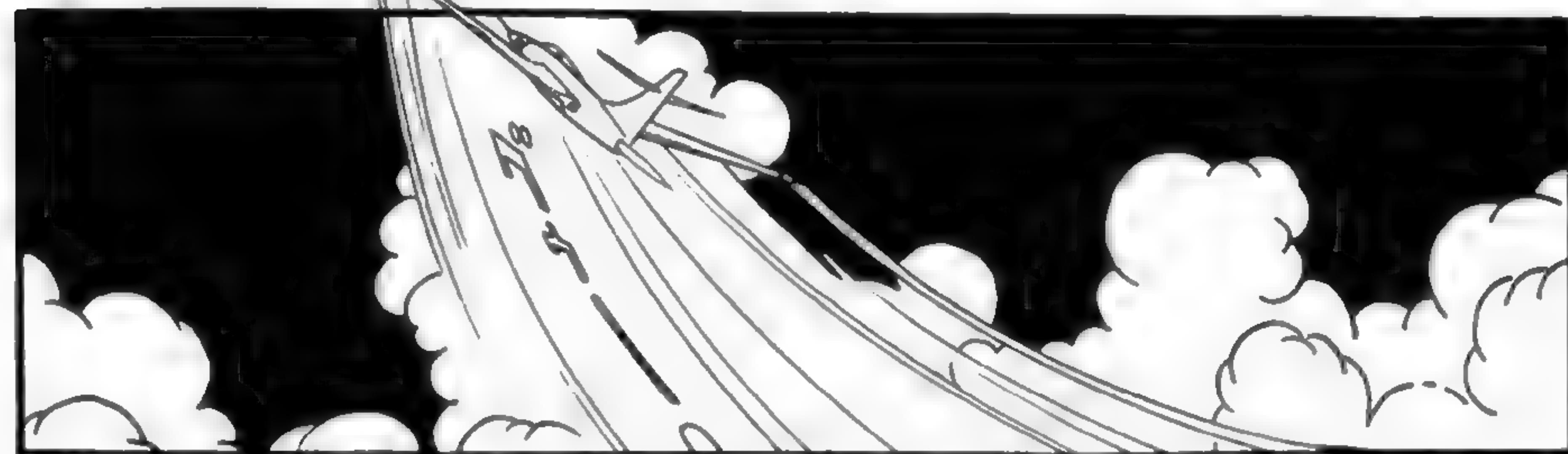

QUICK! GIVE ME YOUR HAND!


DON'T GET TOO CLOSE, YOU'LL SINK TOO!
GET OUT AND SAVE YOUR-SELF!

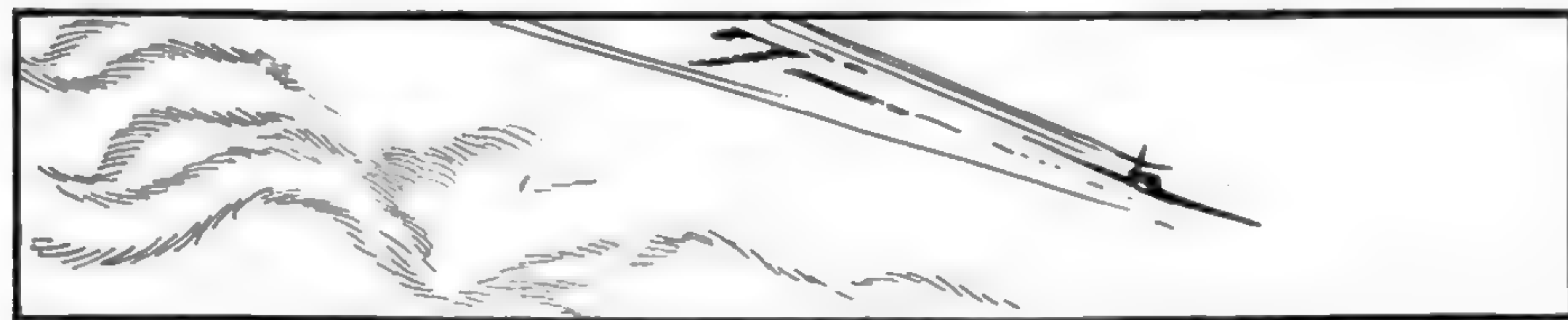
AH! THE PLANE HAS RETURNED!
GIMME A BREAK! THEY'RE FIRING AT US!


NINA!
ARE YOU OKAY?


NINA..
NINA!
MY GOD... SHE'S NOT MOVING... COULD SHE BE DEAD?



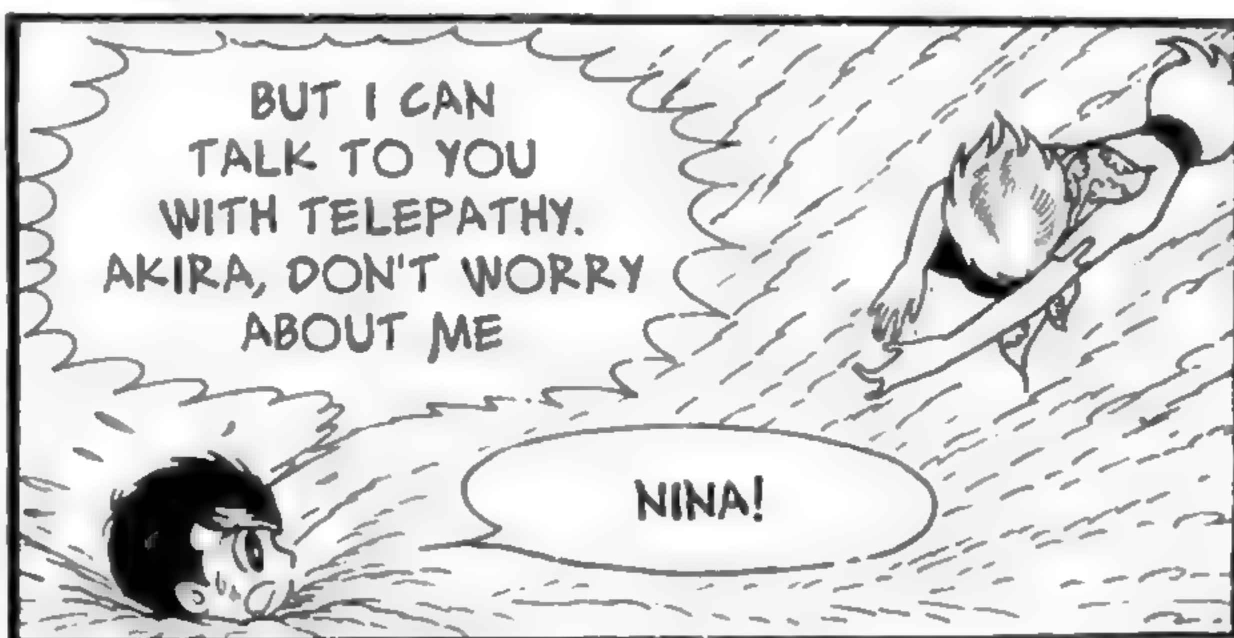

I'VE FOUND BIG X! HE'S TRAPPED LIKE A RAT IN A SAND PIT. SEND IN THE GROUND FORCES!




YES BUT I'M HURT. I CAN'T TALK BECAUSE I WAS HIT IN THE CHEST

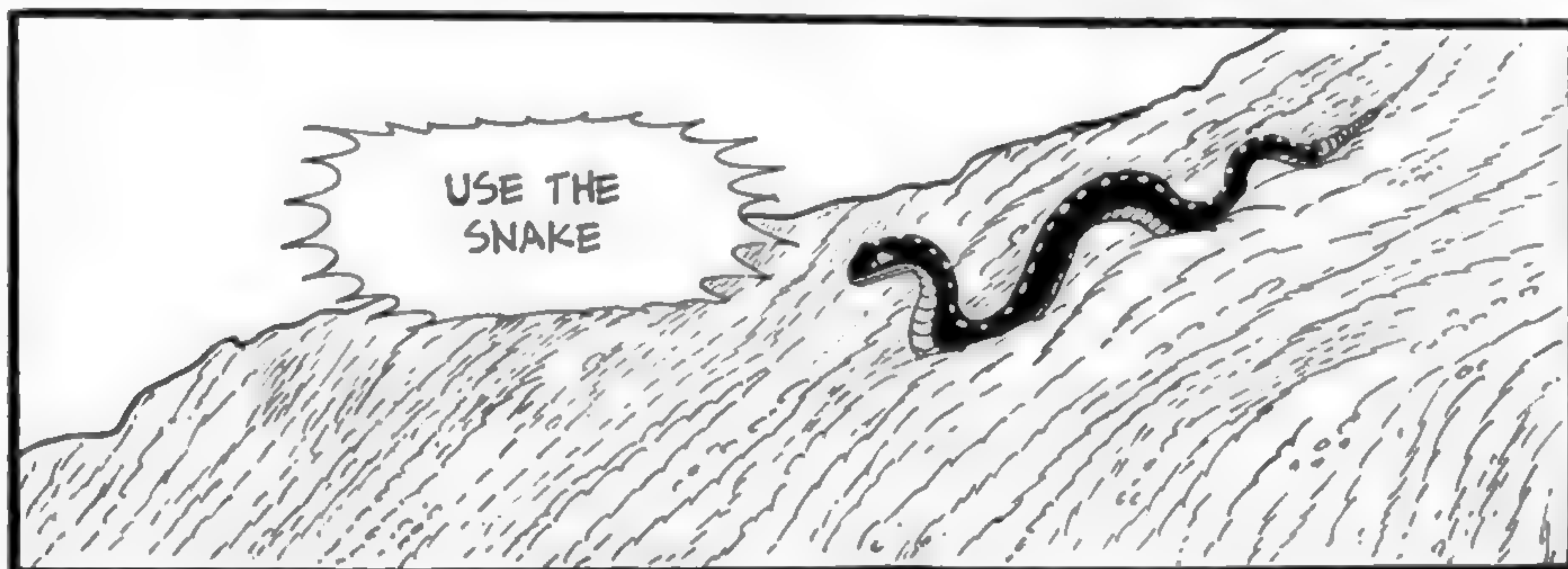

NINA! NINA ARE YOU ALIVE?

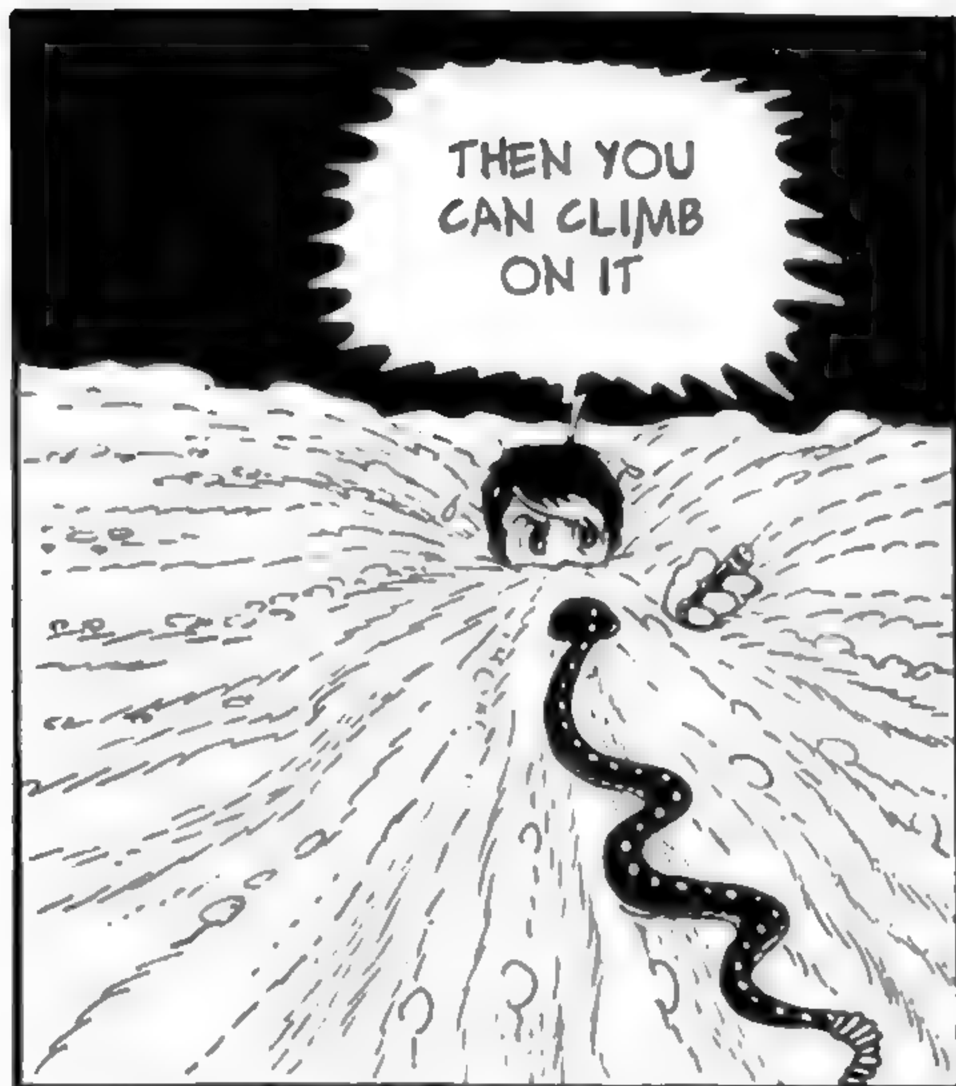

DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE POWER OF BIG X. WITH IT YOU CAN GET OUT OF THIS


BUT I CAN TALK TO YOU WITH TELEPATHY. AKIRA, DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME
NINA!


THAT'S TRUE
NO, IF YOU DO IT NOW YOU'LL SINK FURTHER INTO THE PIT


THAT'S RIGHT... I'LL TRY..

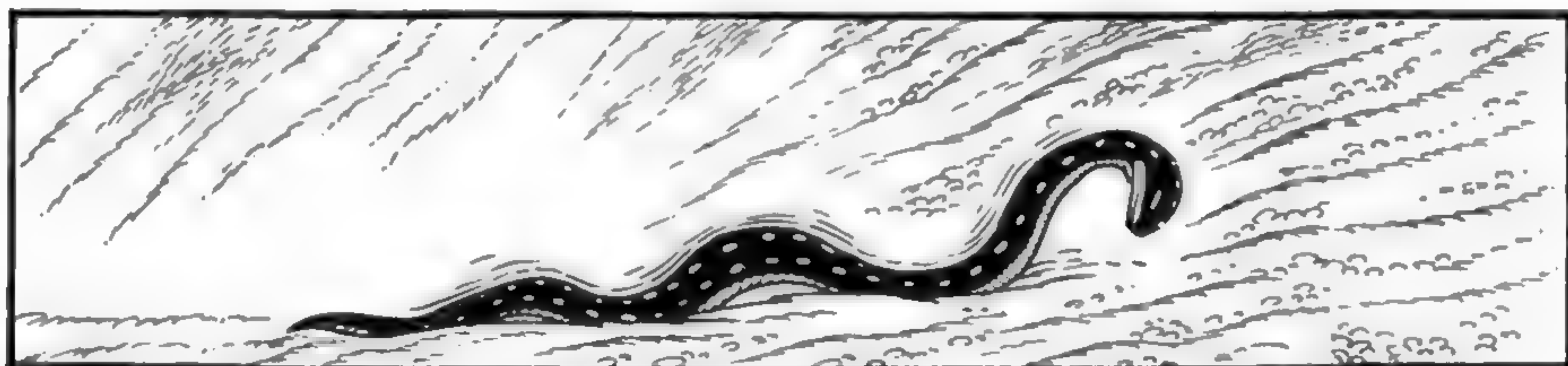

USE THE SNAKE


THEN YOU CAN CLIMB ON IT


INJECT IT INTO THE SNAKE TO MAKE IT BIGGER


IT WON'T BITE YOU

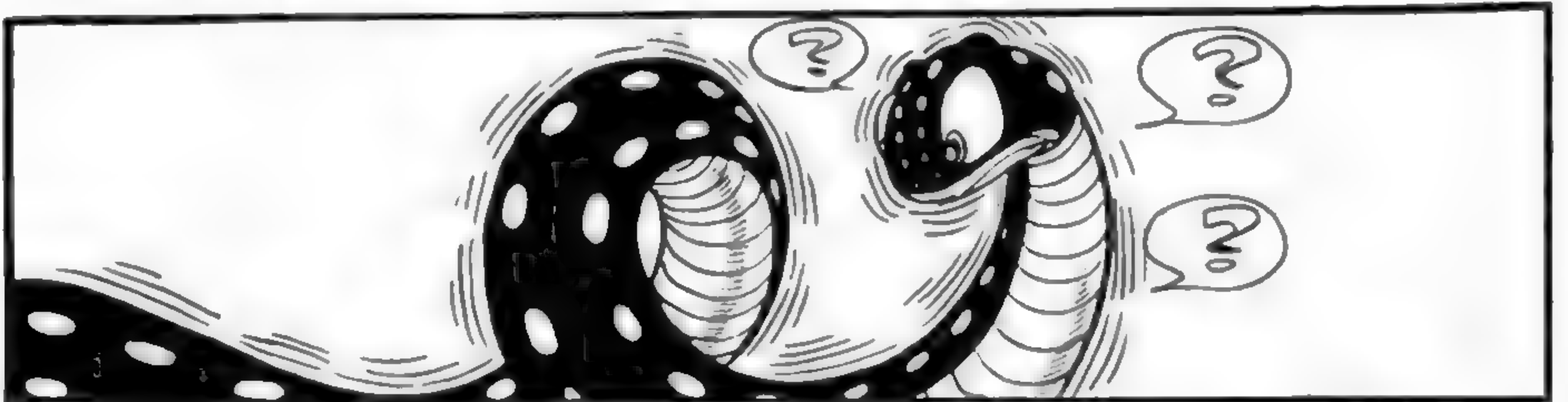

DON'T BE AFRAID.. INJECT IT QUICKLY




UH OH,
IT'S RUNNING
AWAY

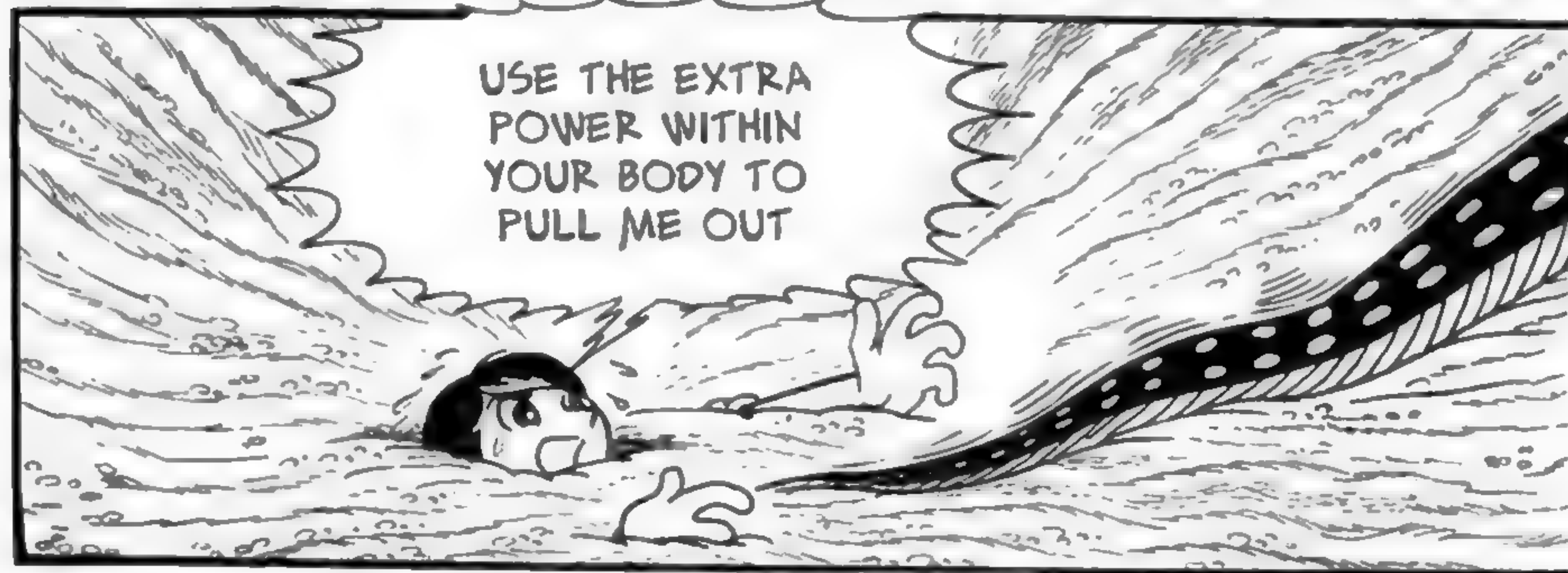

I WON'T LET IT
RUN AWAY...




?
?
?



IT'S OKAY, THE MEDICINE WON'T HARM YOU.




NINA! HOLD ON!


THANK YOU SO MUCH! YOU GOT ME OUT!


GOOD ... JOB ...


OH!! SHE'S GOT A TERRIBLE CHEST WOUND


WOW AMAZING!


A GIANT SNAKE IS GOING TO BE A BIT CONSPICUOUS


I HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF THIS RIGHT AWAY

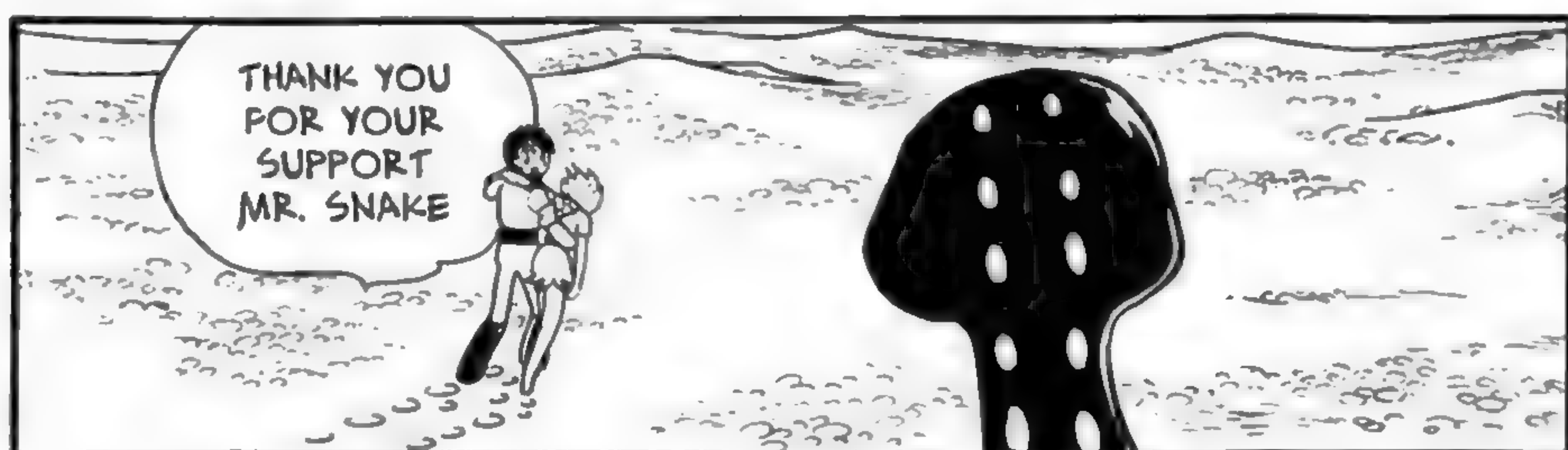

AKIRA, LEAVE ME HERE. I DON'T WANT TO SLOW YOU DOWN.

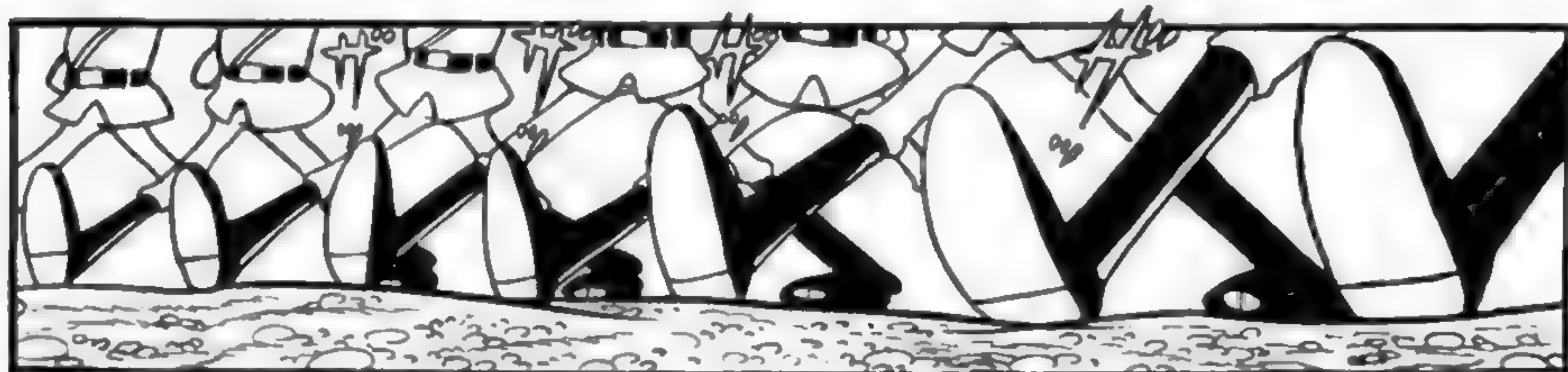

YOU HAVE BIG X AND THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT. YOU HAVE ESCAPE
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS I WON'T LEAVE YOU BEHIND

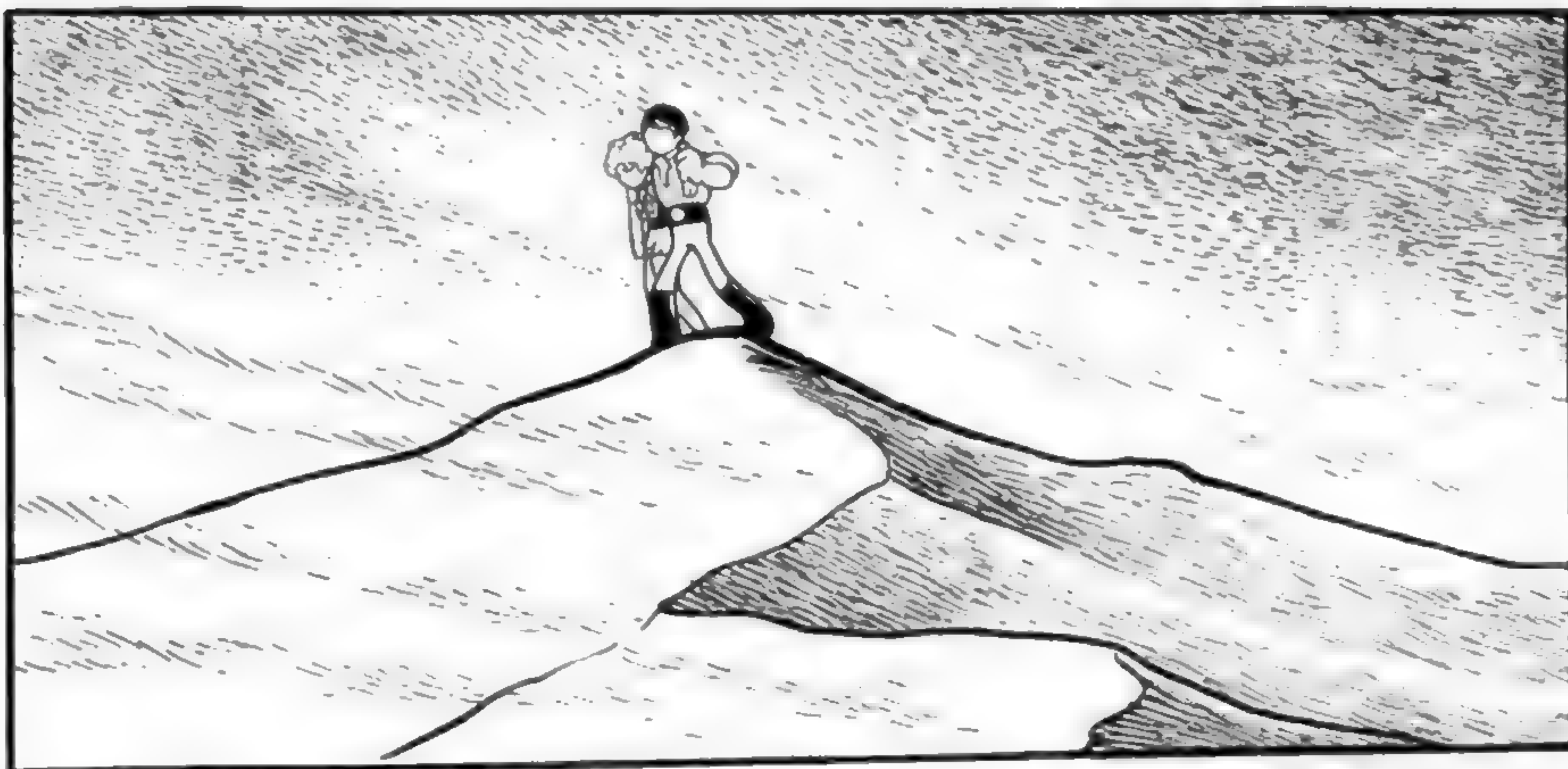

LOOK, THERE'S DUST RISING ON THE HORIZON


IT MUST BE THE ENEMY HEADING THIS WAY

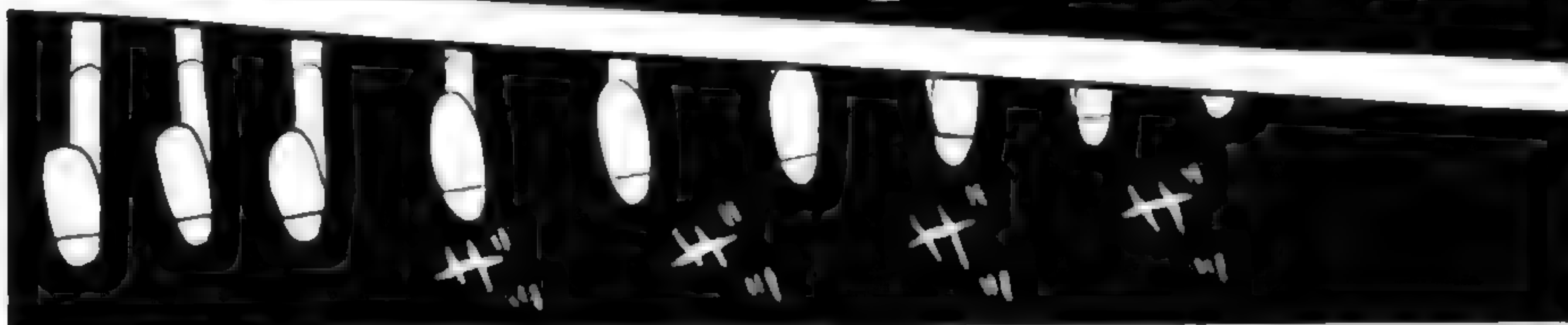

HAHAHA... LOOK... IT'S THE SNAKE. I THINK HE IS SEEING US OFF.

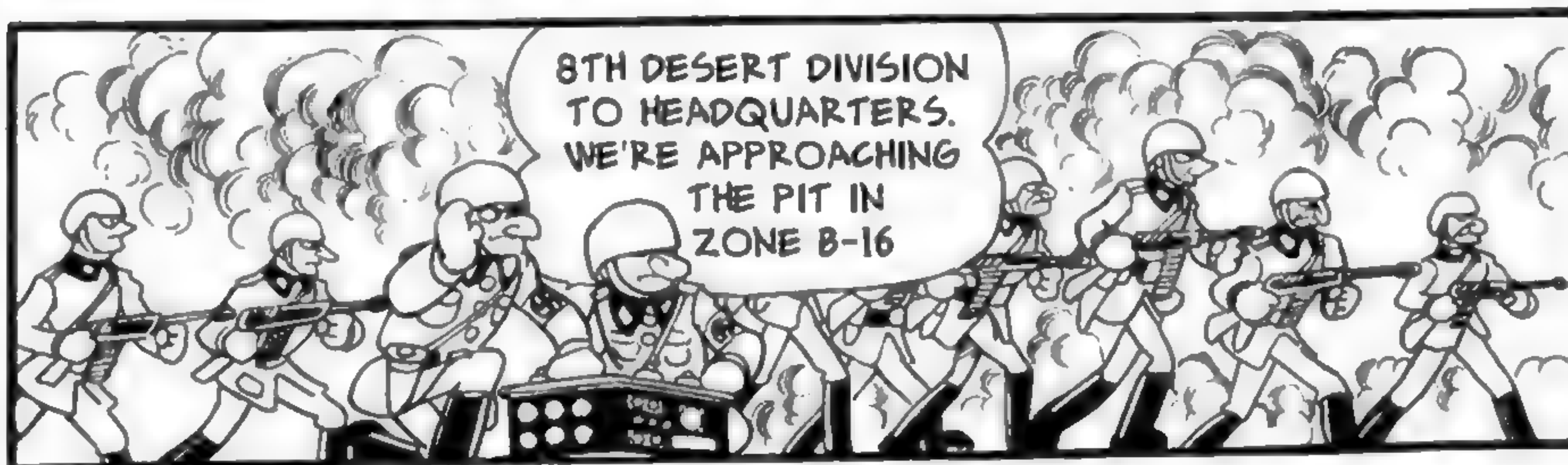

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT MR. SNAKE



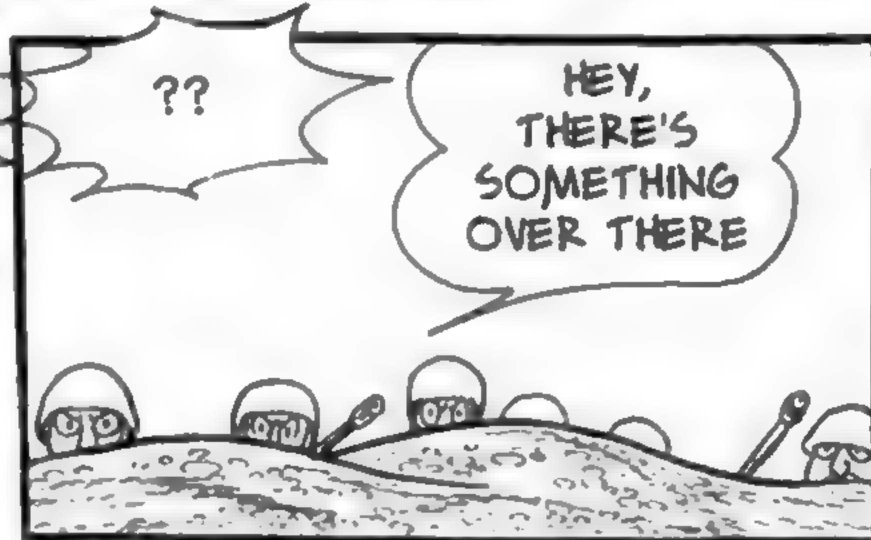






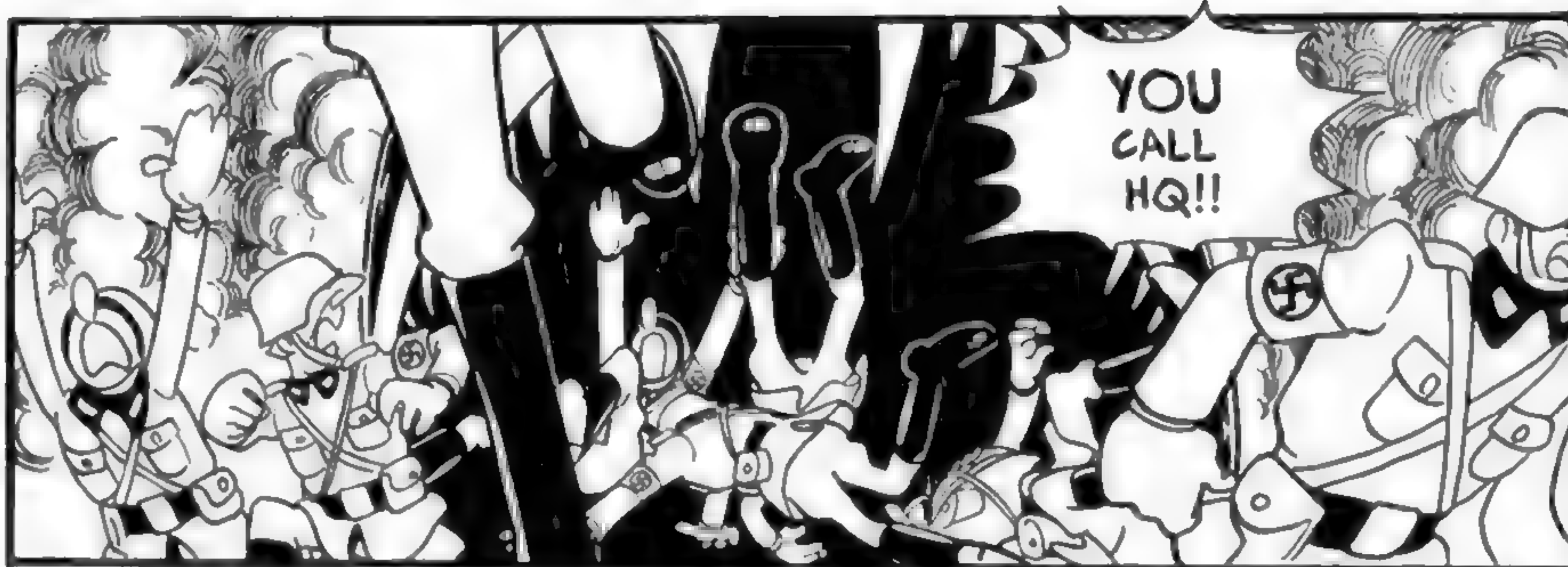

8TH DESERT DIVISION TO HEADQUARTERS. WE'RE APPROACHING THE PIT IN ZONE B-16


WHAT?

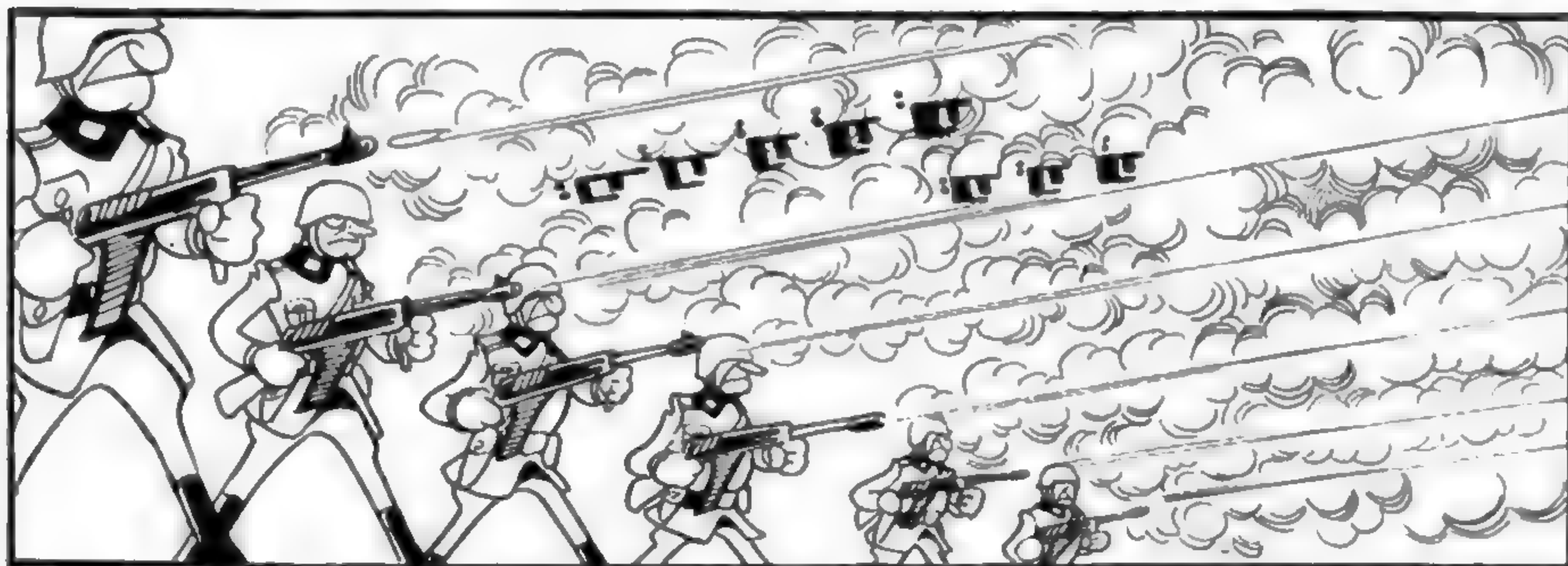

??
HEY, THERE'S SOMETHING OVER THERE

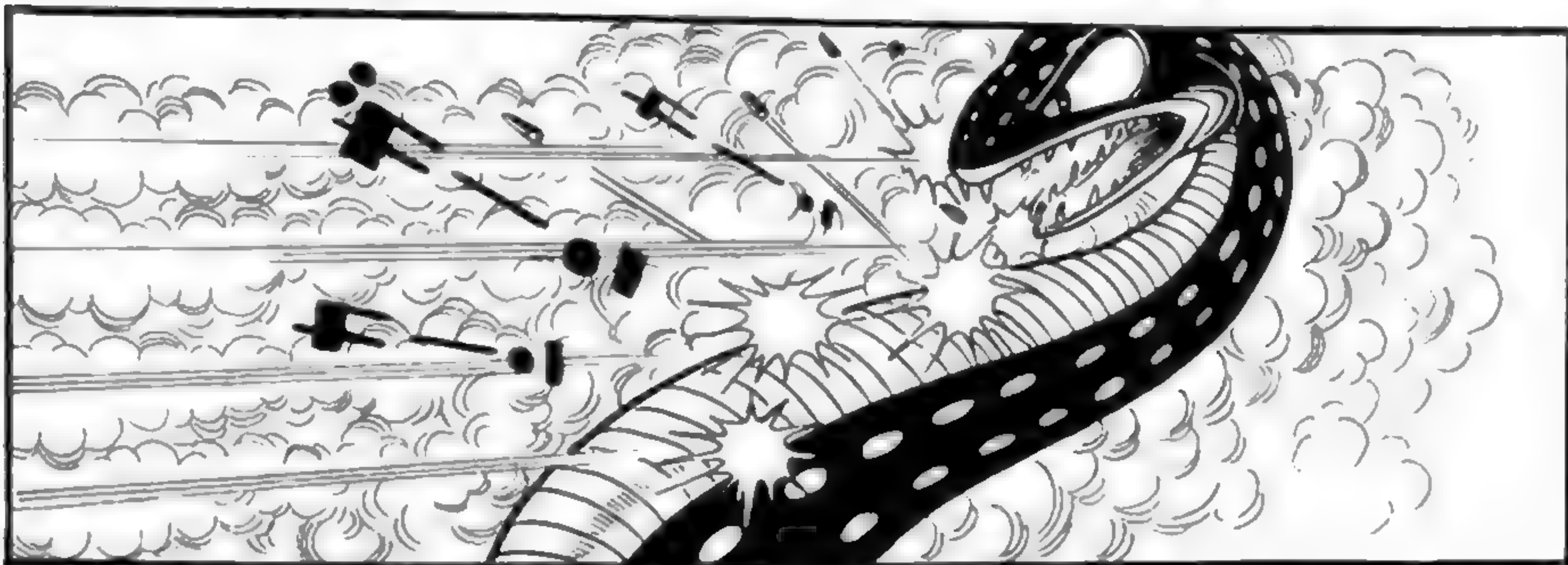
WOW! IT'S A GIANT SNAKE! BIGGER THAN AN ELEPHANT

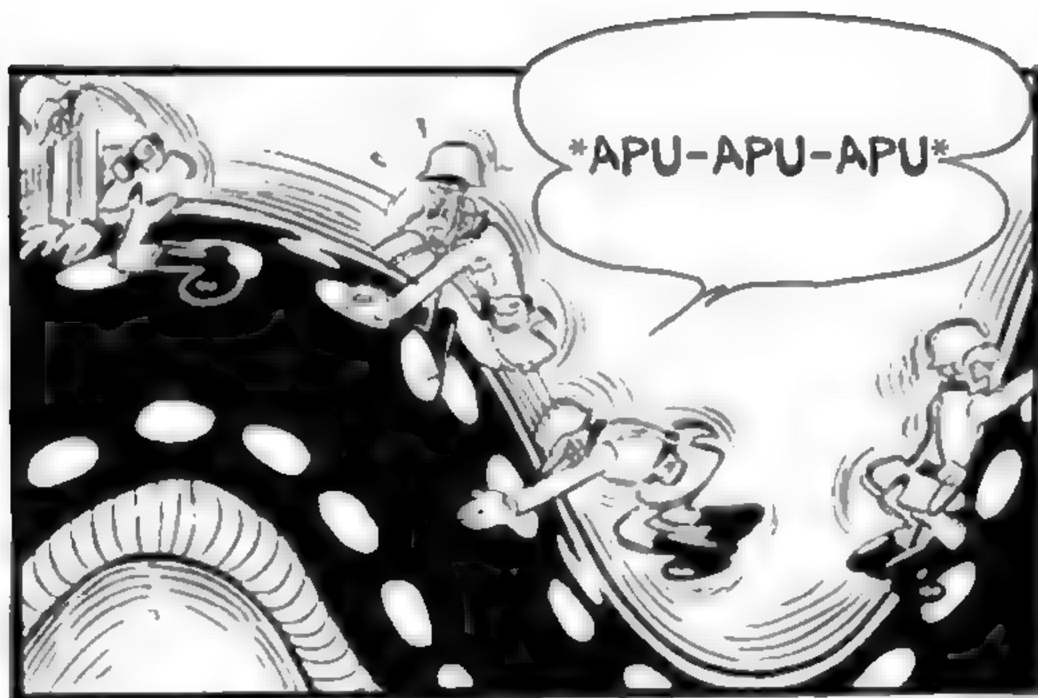


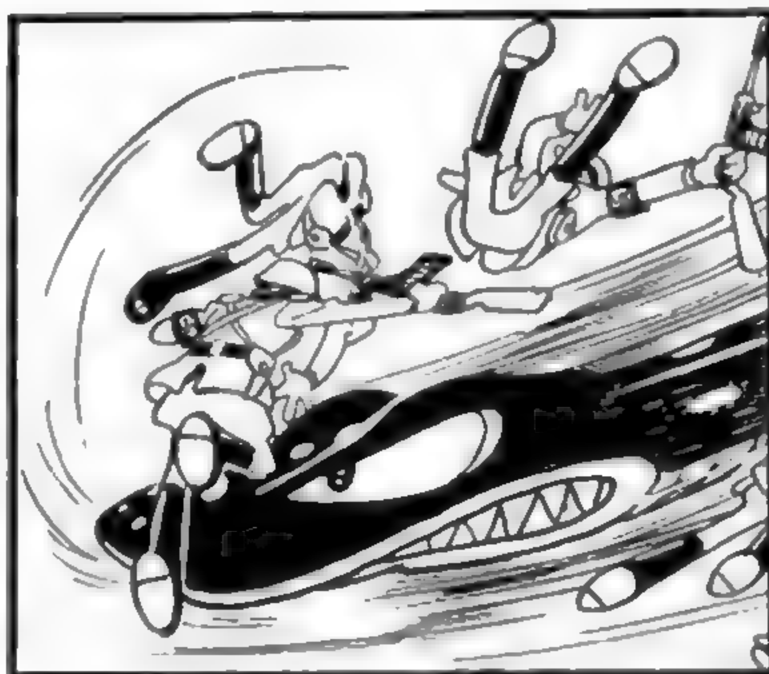

YOU CALL HQ!!

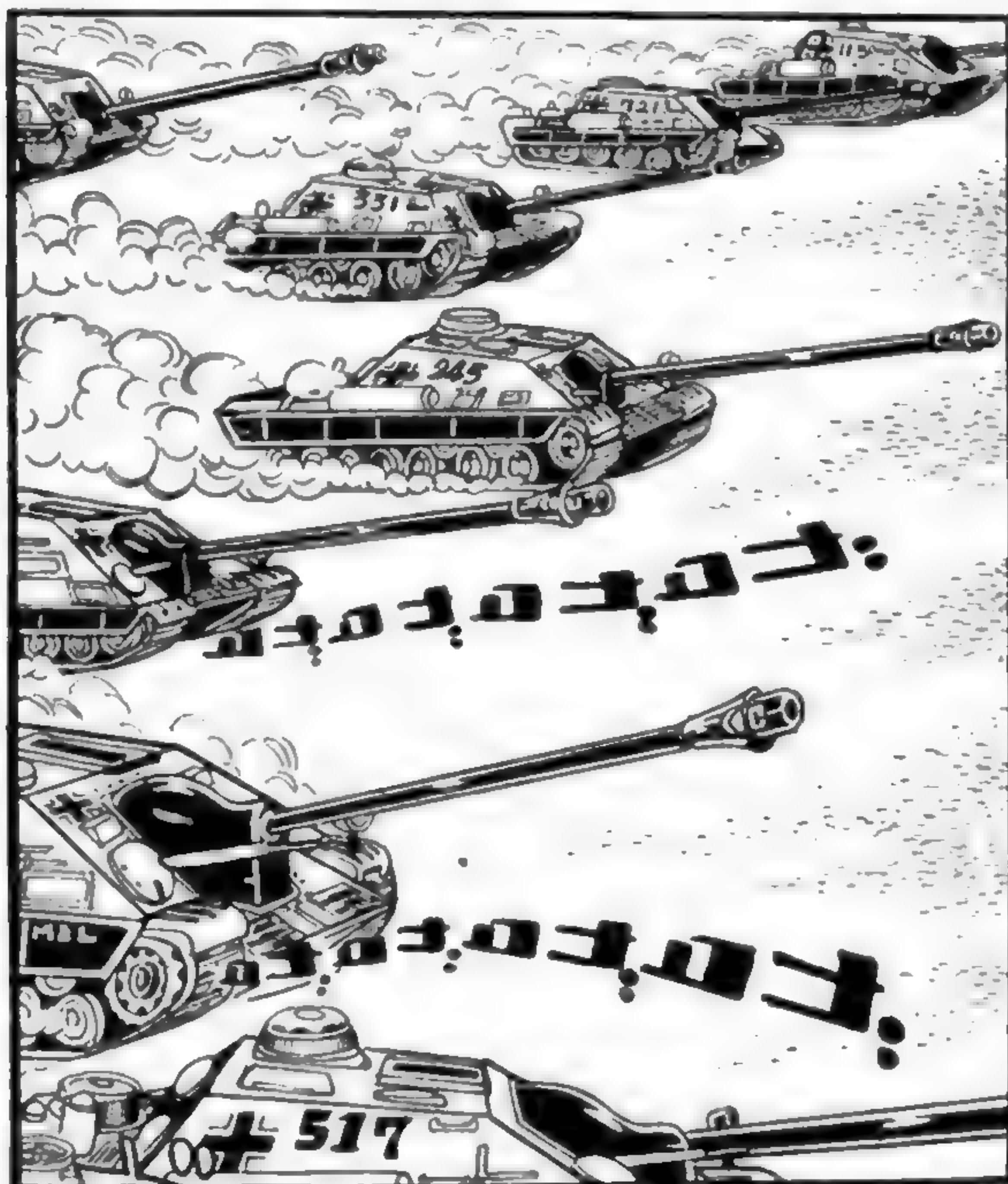

GYAAA!

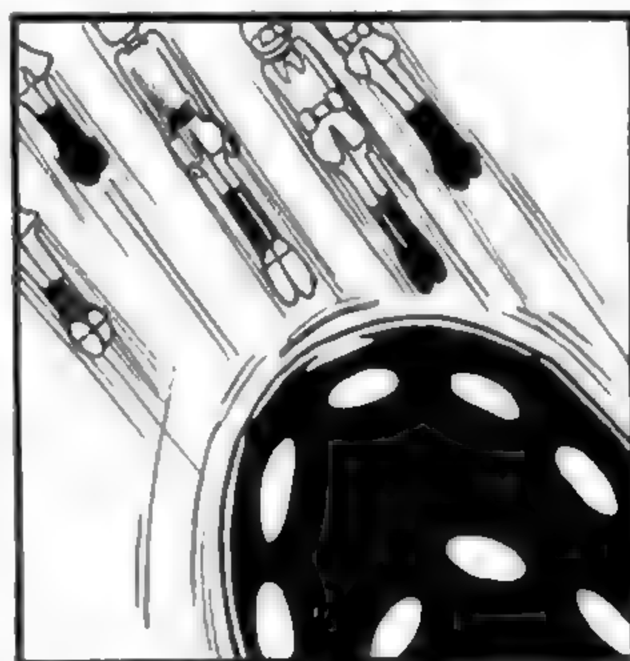




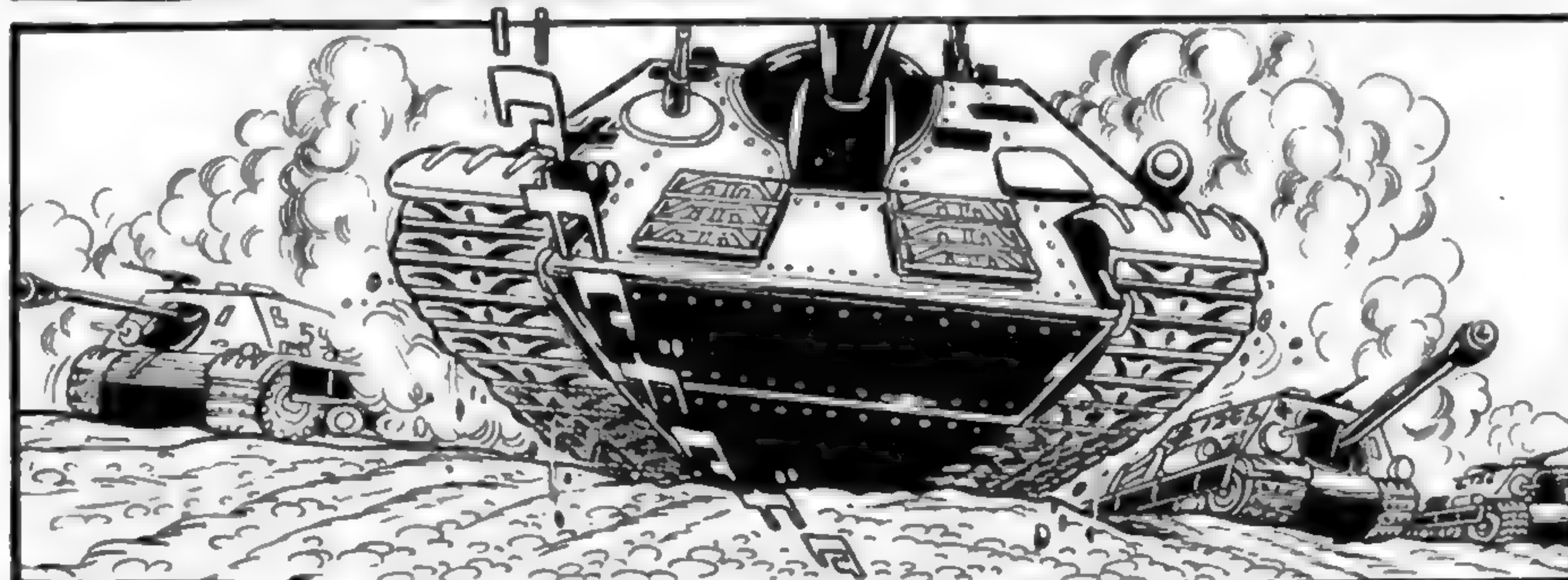

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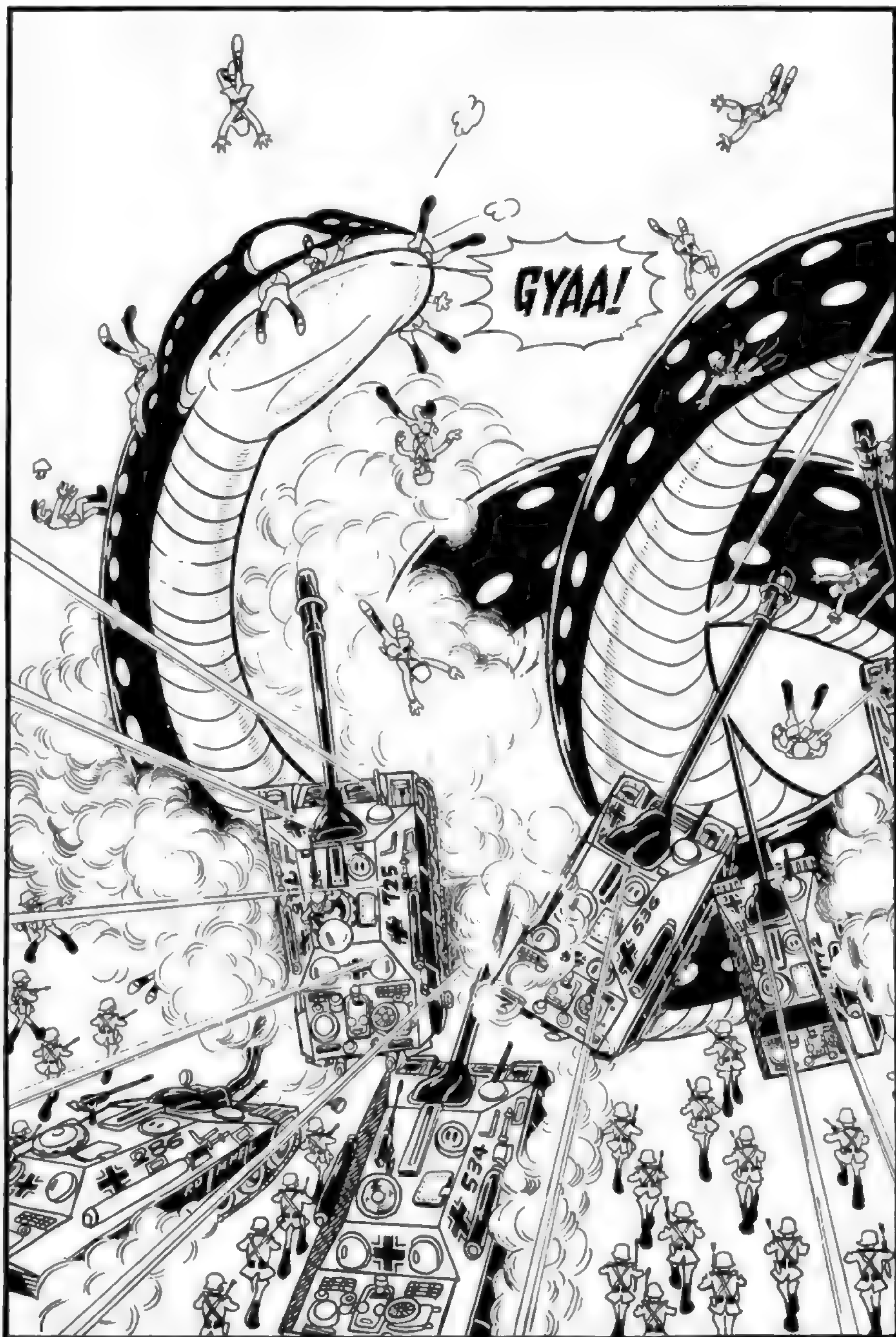


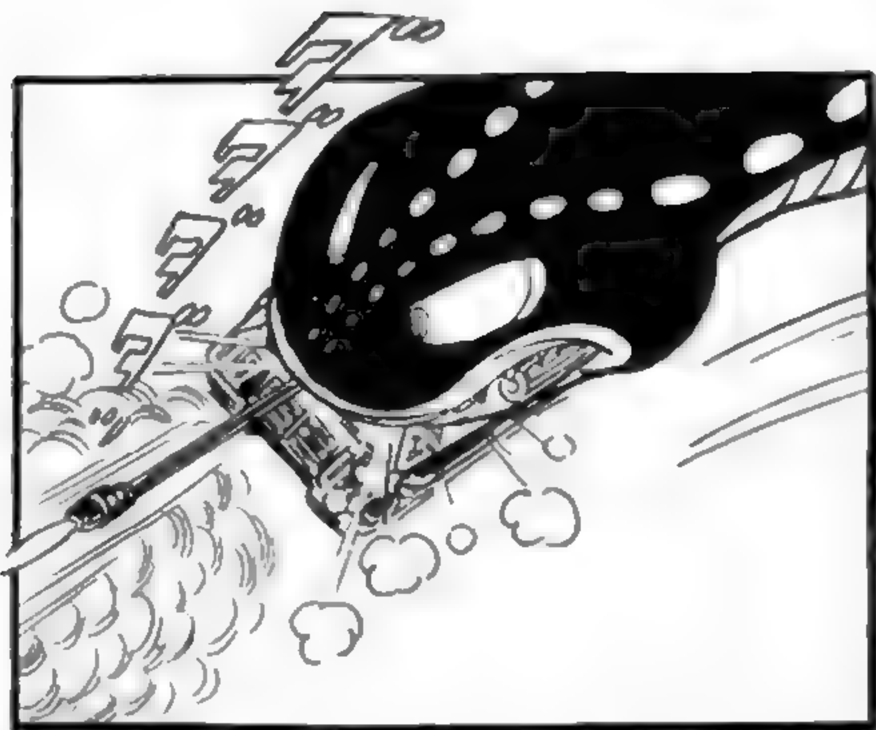

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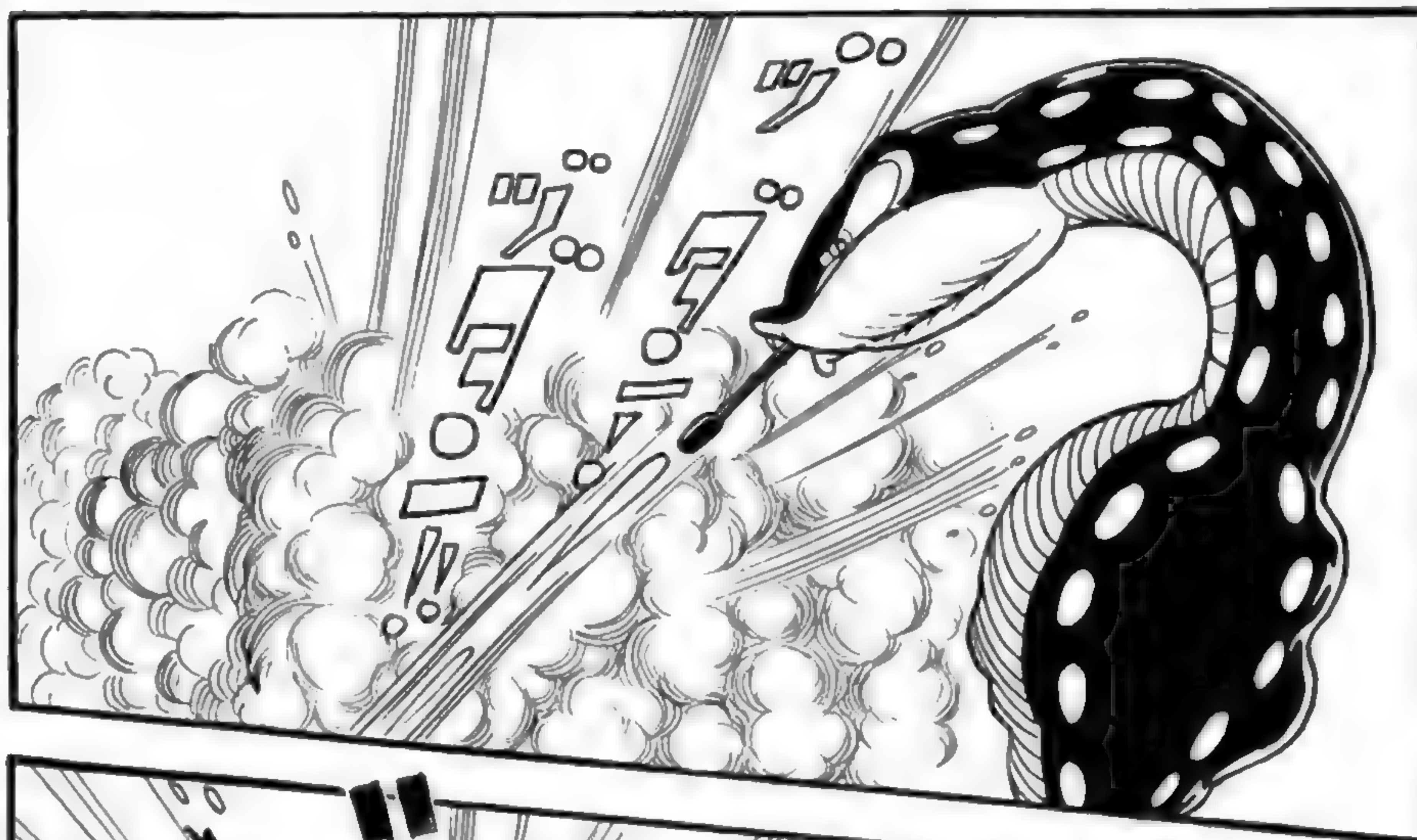

YIAAAAA




GYAA!

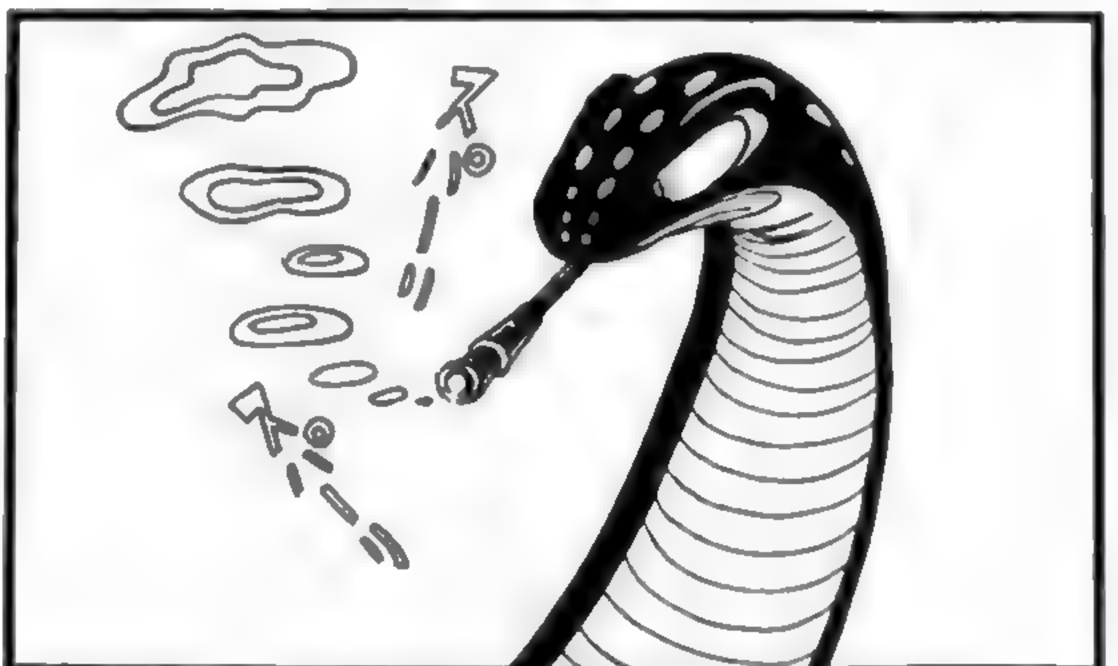



HELP MEEE!





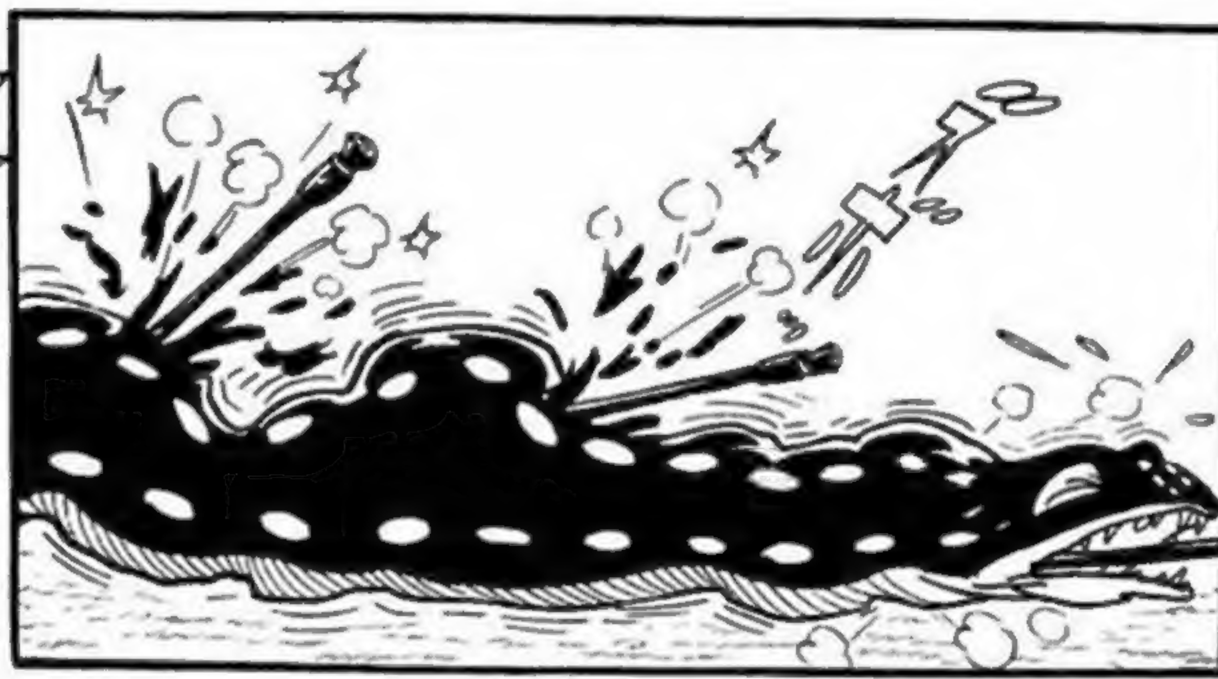

ガタン!

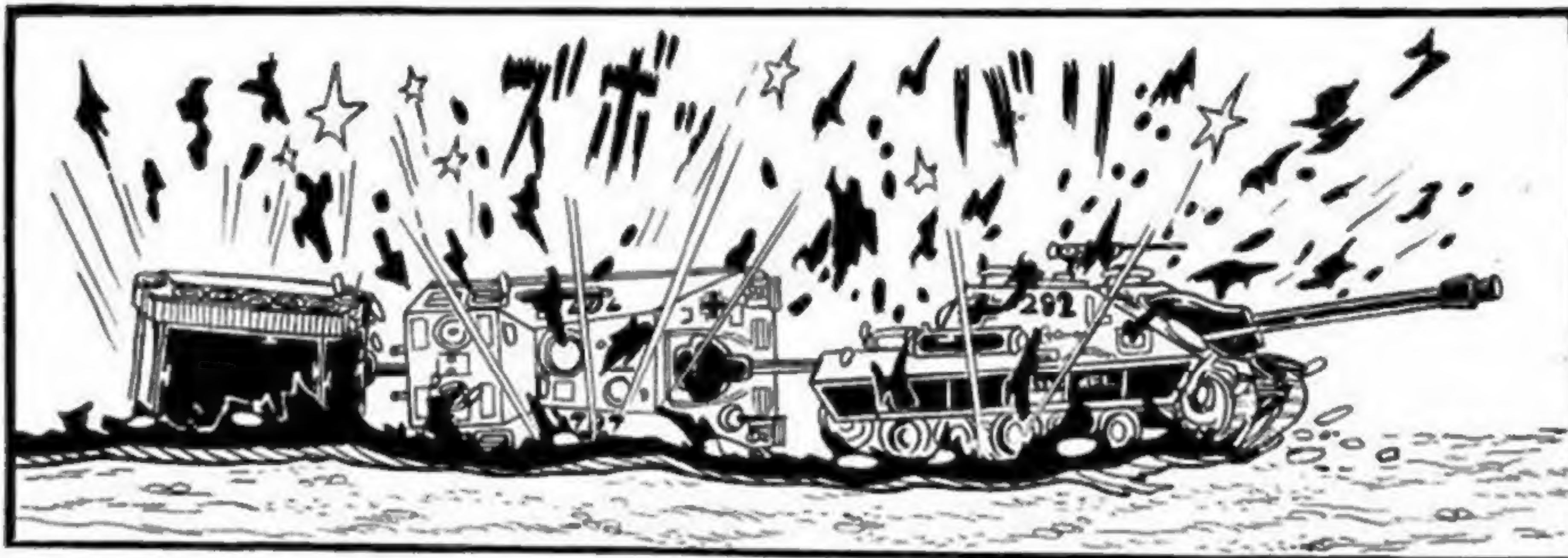

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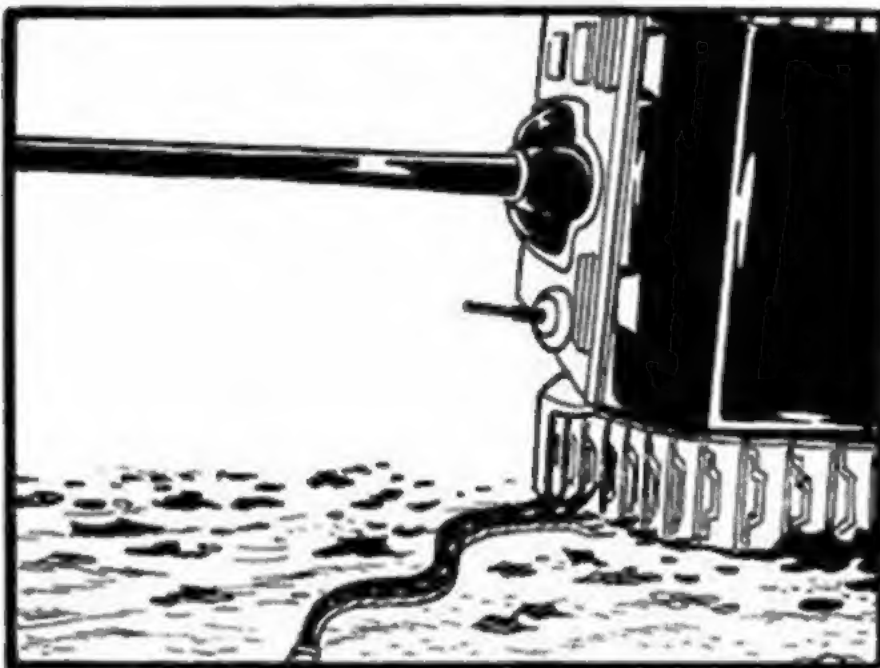


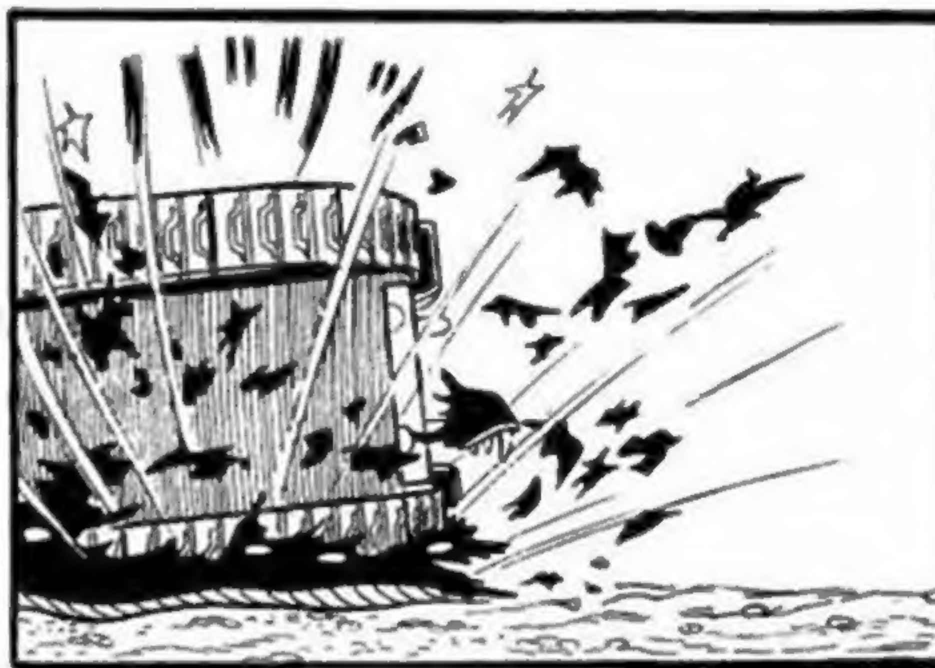

KYAAA
KYAAA


GAAOO

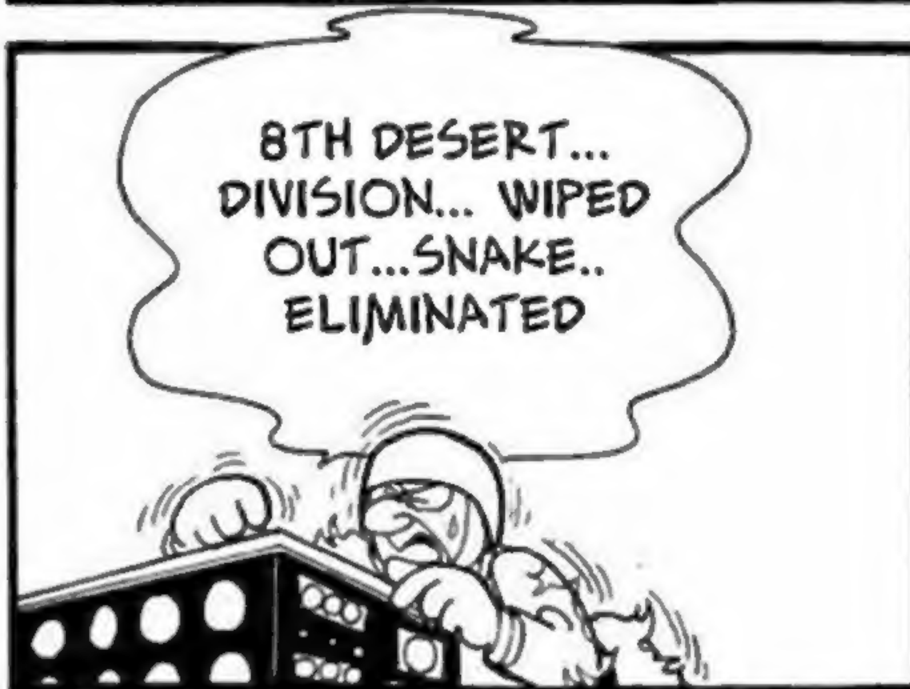


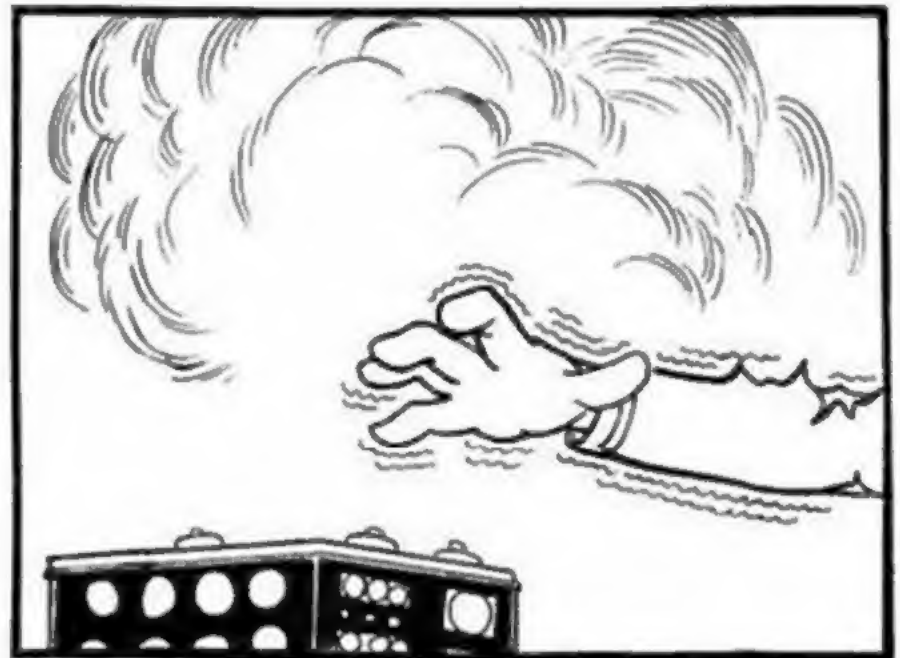




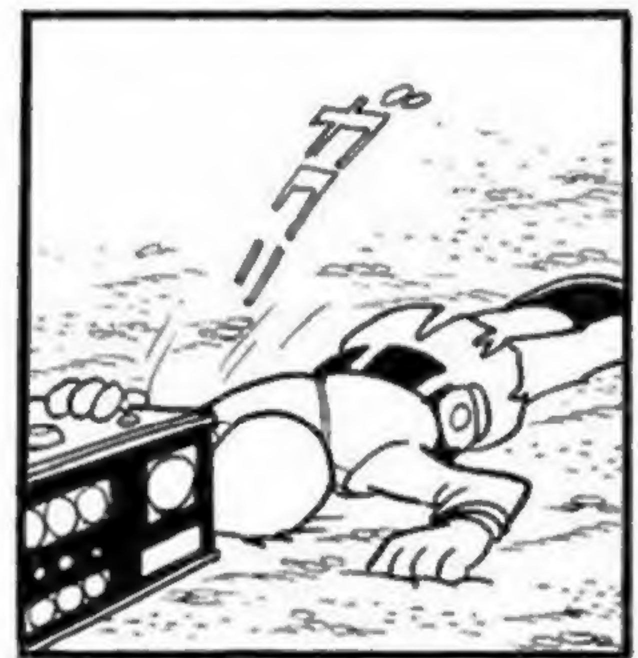





8TH DESERT... DIVISION... WIPED OUT...SNAKE.. ELIMINATED




ビューウウ
ビューウウウ




ビュー


WE'RE ALMOST THERE NINA


SAND... AND MORE SAND... AND THEN SAND STORMS...


ビュウウウ
AHHHH!



BIG X BOOK 1 - END